THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

RADIO ADDRESSES

BY

W. P. WHITSETT

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF
THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
OF
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Mr. W. P. Whitsett Radio Talk K N X Friday, January 2, 1931 7:30 P.M.

Thank y nd Gentlemen:---

ld be very happy this

evening off this new year of 1931

in an i ear with a good shower of

rain -- thing so valuable to

Souther t thus makes available for

our use region.

ig news in Southern

Califor to us so seldom and in such

sparing greatest degree of

accurac every drop is needed -- and

then so e to us from the clouds, -

we also

ble rains such as we have

just ha rcefully the vital importance

of wate country. I have said that

these r re -- but those of us who

have co ctions of the country -- we

must no pend upon these occasional

rain st our domestic requirements -

much le horticultural products.

verage rainfall in Southern

Califor ear. Sixteen inches of rain

during several years we have not

been ge our use of water amounts to

far mor including rainfall ranches we use all the way

from ~~24~~ 33 inches to ~~48~~ inches of water a year -- and in our centers of population our use is very much greater.

★ ARMY ★ HOW TO *Identify* THEM ★ NAVY ★

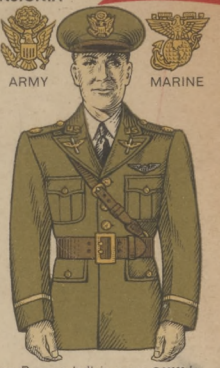
ARMY OFFICERS
INSIGNIA OF RANK

(Worn on Both Shoulders)

INSIGNIA	RANK	ANNUAL BASE PAY
★★★★	General	$8,000
★★★	Lieutenant General	$8,000
★★	Major General	$8,000
★	Brigadier General	$6,000
	Colonel	$4,000
	Lieutenant Colonel	$3,500
	Major	$3,000
	Captain	$2,400
	First Lieutenant	$2,000
	Second Lieutenant	$1,800

CAP INSIGNIA

ARMY MARINE



ENLISTED MEN'S INSIGNIA OF GRADE

ARMY NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND PRIVATES

(Worn on Both Sleeves 4 Inches Below Shoulder)

GRADE	1	2	2	3	4	5	6	7
INSIGNIA								No Chevrons
RANK	Master Sergeant	First Sergeant	Technical Sergeant	Staff Sergeant	Duty Sergeant	Corporal	Private 1st Class	Buck Private
MONTHLY BASE PAY	$138.00	$114.00	$114.00	$96.00	$78.00	$66.00	$54.00	$50.00

The base pay as shown for both officers and enlisted men may be increased by longevity of service, flying or parachute duty, qualification in arms, etc. Privates 1st class and Privates are not non-commissioned officers.

NAVY PETTY OFFICERS AND NON-RATED MEN

GRADE	1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
INSIGNIA								
RANK	Chief Petty Off.	Act. Chief Petty Off.	1st Class Petty Off.	2nd Class Petty Off.	3rd Class Petty Off.	1st Class Seaman	2nd Class Seaman	Apprentice Seaman
MONTHLY BASE PAY	$138.00	$126.00	$114.00	$96.00	$78.00	$66.00	$54.00	$50.00

☐ = Specialty marks. Chevrons are worn midway between shoulder and elbow; on the right sleeve, by men of the seaman branch, and on left sleeve by men of the artificer branches. Seamen are not non-commissioned officers.

CAP INSIGNIA

COAST GUARD NAVY

Line Officers wear a star above stripes. Officers of Staff Corps wear Corps Insignia above stripes.

NAVY OFFICERS
INSIGNIA OF RANK

(Worn on Both Cuffs)

INSIGNIA	RANK	ANNUAL BASE PAY
	Admiral	$8,000
	Vice Admiral	$8,000
	Rear Admiral	$6,000
	Captain	$4,000
	Commander	$3,500
	Lt. Commander	$3,000
	Lieutenant	$2,400
	Lieut. (Jr. Grade)	$2,000
	Ensign	$1,800

The base pay as shown for both officers and enlisted men may be increased by longevity of service, flying or submarine duty, etc. The uniform of the Coast Guard is very similar to that of the Navy.

BRANCH INSIGNIA

(Worn on Lapel or Collar by Officers)

U.S. Officers' U. S. Chem. Warfare Engineers

Infantry Coast Artillery Field Artillery Cavalry

Air Corps Finance Chaplain Military Police

Medical Ordnance Signal Corps Quartermaster

The Sam Browne belt is worn ***ONLY*** by Officers. The Marine uniform is quite similar to the Army uniform.

BADGES

(Worn on Left Breast)

PILOT

OBSERVER

PARACHUTIST

Medals, decorations, ribbons, marksmanship badges, etc., are also worn on left breast.

CORPS INSIGNIA

(Worn above Insignia of Rank)

Line Medical Dental Chaplain Supply Civil Engineer

BADGES

(Worn on Left Breast)

PILOT

OBSERVER

SUBMARINE OFFICER

Medals, decorations and ribbons are also worn on the left breast.

SPECIALTY MARKS

(Worn Inside Petty Officer's Chevrons)

Boatswain Mate Machinist Mate Gunner's Mate Aviation Ordnanceman Yeoman

Fire Controlman Quarter-master Aviation Mach. Mate Torpedoman Storekeeper

Mr. W. P. Whitsett Radio Talk K N X Friday, January 2, 1931 7:30 P.M.

Thank you Mr. Wallace, Good Evening, Ladies and Gentlemen:---

Everyone in Southern California should be very happy this evening ---- because we are certainly starting off this new year of 1931 in an ideal manner. We have started the new year with a good shower of rain -- and I know of nothing so welcome -- nothing so valuable to Southern California as rain -- and the water it thus makes available for our use here in this semi-arid and sun-bathed region.

As Mr. Wallace has said -- rain is big news in Southern California -- it is big news because it comes to us so seldom and in such sparing quantities that we measure it with the greatest degree of accuracy. Every drop of water is precious -- every drop is needed -- and then some more drops of water which do not come to us from the clouds, - we also need.

In fact these most welcome and valuable rains such as we have just had the last two days bring home to us forcefully the vital importance of water to all of this beautiful Southwestern country. I have said that these rains are most valuable -- and so they are -- but those of us who have come to Southern California from other sections of the country -- we must not jump to the conclusion that we can depend upon these occasional rain storms for the water we require to supply our domestic requirements - much less our orange groves and our other rich horticultural products.

The fact of the matter is that the average rainfall in Southern California amounts to only about 16 inches a year. Sixteen inches of rain during the entire year -- And during the past several years we have not been getting quite an average production. But our use of water amounts to far more than this 16 inches per year. On our ranches we use including rainfall all the way from ~~24~~ 33 inches to ~~48~~ 40 inches of water a year -- and in our centers of population our use is very much greater.

There is one city block in Los Angeles, for example, where the amount of water consumed each year would cover that entire block to a depth of 86 feet, or 1032 inches. This means that the rain which falls on that block each year is used up in five days.

Now, we are not complaining about this small amount of rainfall in comparison to our water needs. We are merely stating a fact - a fact with which we are here to deal - and to work out to the best interest of all concerned. There is not one of us who would trade our marvelous sunshine -- our glorious succession of warm, bright days for long days of dark, rainy weather. But we also know that we cannot hope to have sunshine and rain coming down upon us from the same sky -- at the same time. We are out here -- most of us -- because we love this blessed sunshine of ours -- and we know that we can -- if we will - bring in <u>with our own hands</u> -- the additional water we need to make this Southern California just about as near a perfect place in which to live as man has yet discovered on the face of the earth.

To bring in this additional water - and to make this water available for our use -- such is the purpose and the function of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

In the several little talks I have made over K N X during the past few weeks I have touched upon various phases of the work of the Metropolitan Water District - and the great Colorado River Aqueduct project now being carried forward by the District. And now, that we are starting out on a new year -- it might be well for us to review just for a minute some of these facts.

In the first place -- Just what is this Metropolitan Water Distric And here is the answer in a few words; The Metropolitan Water District is a governmental organization ~~just as clear cut and~~ as distinct in its nature as is the State of California or the County of Los Angeles -- let us say.

The District is -- in fact - a federation of Southern California cities that have joined forces to build and operate a great aqueduct - or water supply system - from the Colorado River some 250 miles distant. At the present time there are eleven cities in the Metropolitan Water District. It is important to know which of the cities of Southern California actually are in the District - because these are the cities that have taken steps to provide for their inhabitants an abundant and an assured supply of good Colorado River water. Let me give you those cities - and note - if you will, whether your city is in this list. Here they are: -- San Bernardino and Colton -- Anaheim and Santa Ana -- San Marino, Pasadena, Glendale, Burbank, Beverly Hills, Santa Monica and Los Angeles -- eleven in all.

Action has been taken by four other thriving, wide-awake Southern California communities to submit the question of joining the District to the voters in these cities. The four cities who soon will pass upon the question of joining the District are Fullerton, Ontario, Long Beach and Torrence.

As I have said the one big task faced by our Metropolitan Water District is that of building and operating an aqueduct -- or water supply line -- that will bring an abundant and reliable domestic water supply from the Colorado River to the cities and the inhabitants of the District. The aqueduct will be built and paid for by the cities in the District -- and it stands to reason therefore that the water brought in by the Metropolitan District aqueduct will be used <u>exclusively</u> by the cities within the District.

Ever since the communities of Southern California started their amazing expansion and growth some twenty years back -- it has been perfectly obvious to those who seriously studied the situation that steps must be taken to bring in additional water from outside sources -- if this growth was to be continued and the property values were to be maintained and permanently supported.

Now we have reached the time when we are face to face with the task and the necessity of bringing in this outside water. As already indicated - it is perfectly obvious that we cannot hope to get along by depending upon the water that comes to us locally.

To be sure -- every possible and practicable step should be taken to conserve and put to beneficial use every drop of water that falls in Southern California. But even though it were possible for us to do this thing- even then we would be far short of our actual needs. We would be short for the very simple reason that we are right now actually using a great deal more water than either Man or Nature is replacing in local water sources. To be more definite - it is estimated that we are at the present time using approximately 170 million gallons of water a day MORE than is being replaced in local water sources either by natural or artificial means.

Where are we getting that 170 million gallons of water each day that we are now using in addition to that which comes to us from natural sources? That's a fair question. And the answer is that we are now making up the deficit by drawing off our supply of underground reserve water -- water which has been described as fossil water because it has required many thousands of years to accumulate -- many thousands of years when there were no orange groves or no cities in this region to use up all of the water that came this way.

It is this drawing down of our fossil water reserves that is ~~giving impetus to~~ driving forward the work of the Metropolitan Water District. We are not alarmed about the situation. We are not alarmed - because we have learned that it is entirely feasible and practicable to bring in the additional water we need from the Colorado River. Here we have the cities and the people -- over there- at a distance of 250 miles or so - we have the Colorado River with a bounteous supply of good water now wasting into the sea. Our task is simple and plain. We must construct a water supply line that will tap the Colorado River and bring to us a portion of the water which we so urgently need, and which is now flowing out into the ocean - and being utterly wasted and lost for all beneficial use.

Such an aqueduct must cross the high table-land, the several mountain ranges and the wide stretches of desert country that stand between the Colorado and the highly developed region along the Pacific ocean in Southern California. The first problem to be solved in connection with the aqueduct project - therefore - was that of selecting the best and the most economical route for this water supply line. More than six years of exact and continuous survey work and engineering investigation was devoted to this problem of selecting the best aqueduct route. Since the formation of the Metropolitan Water District in 1928 this work has been carried forward under the able direction of Chief Engineer Frank E. Weymouth. More than 60,000 square miles of territory were surveyed and charted in the course of this engineering study -- an area larger than the combined areas of the states of Iowa, Delaware and Rhode Island.

Some sixty-five different aqueduct routes and variations of routes were projected and carefully examined.

In addition to the work of our own Chief Engineer Mr. Weymouth, our Board of Directors of the District retained three other distinguished engineers, and gave them the responsibility of recommending the line which they found to be the best and the most economical. These three engineers were Mr. Thaddeus Merriman of New York City; Mr. A. J. Wiley of Boise, Idaho and Dr. Richard R. Lyman of Salt Lake City, Utah.

Several weeks ago our Chief Engineer, Mr. Weymouth, submitted his report and findings on the aqueduct route problem. Only recently the three engineers on the Engineering Board of Review submitted their report and recommendations. These reports revealed that the engineers ~~had been as a unit~~ are unanimous in their conclusions -- they all agreed that the safest, the most practicable and- by far - the most economical route is one which has its intake near Parker on the Colorado River. - - - - -

- - - One of the first questions that comes to our mind when we come to consider such an undertaking as the Colorado River Aqueduct is the cost. You may be sure that our board of directors on the Metropolitan Water District has given a good many days -- and nights - to that problem. And so we asked the Engineering Board of Review to cover also the question of cost.

Conservative estimates made by the Engineering Board of Review reveal that the cost of the Metropolitan Aqueduct, along the Parker route, will amount to about 2-1/4 cents per day per person, based on the present population of the District. This cost includes annual interest charges on the aqueduct bonds as well as operation and maintenance expense.

Cost of the aqueduct, including terminal storage and pumping plants, is fixed at $199,600,000.

Interest charges on such an investment, plus all operating and maintenance costs, actually will amount to about 1 cent per person per day on the basis of the 4,000,000 inhabitants that will be in the Metropolitan Water District 15 or 20 years hence - when the full charges on the aqueduct begin to fall due.

It is indeed comforting for us to know that the cost of this great engineering project - the greatest ever launched in America - is so well within our means. It has been said often that water is so important in Southern California - it doesn't matter much what it costs - we must have it. But nevertheless - we feel much better when we are assured that the cost of this particular project is one which need not worry us -- and certainly will not burden us. Its cost - in fact - will be covered many, many times over by the new values which it will create in real property and in industrial expansion.

And now my time is about up. There are many other important phases of this great Metropolitan Aqueduct project in which I know you are interested - and about which I desire to have you informed.

We will discuss some of them next ~~week~~. Friday evening at 7:30

And now -- Good Evening -- and a happy New Year to you all.

RADIO TALKS

K N X

W. P. WHITSETT

7:30 - Friday Evenings

Radio Program - KNX - Friday Evening, December 5, 1930
7:30 p.m.

FOR MR. WALLACE

Announcement:

And now for 15 fast minutes of news and authoritative information on the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California - the Governmental organization that is preparing to bring to the cities within this District a perpetual supply of good Colorado River Water.

This evening KNX brings to you the first of a series of talks on the great Colorado River Aqueduct project and the Metropolitan Water District. Chairman W. P. Whitsett of the board of directors of the Metropolitan Water District has been requested personally to present these messages to you in order that you may receive accurate, interesting and official news on this gigantic water project which holds within itself the destiny of the cities of Southern California. Mr. Whitsett is the head man on the board of fifteen directors who represent the eleven cities now in the Metropolitan Water District. He has studied Southern California water conditions for more than 25 years - and is therefore well qualified to tell us of the preparations of the Metropolitan Water District to bring to our gardens and our homes the long awaited golden flood of Colorado River water.

Just as a suggestion Mr. Whitsett, I think most of us would be interested first of all in getting a little elementary information on this Colorado River water proposition. Just what is this Metropolitan Water District, anyway? And what is the Colorado River Aqueduct? What does it mean to me, and to all the rest of us out here in Southern California?

Mr. Whitsett - the meeting is yours.

W. P. Whitsett Radio Talk KNX Friday, December 5, 1930
7:30 p.m.

Thank you Mr. Wallace. Good evening Ladies and Gentlemen:

When I was informed recently that through the courtesy of Radio Station KNX a series of weekly messages on the Metropolitan Water District was to be broadcast - and was requested to assist in these broadcasts - I responded immediately and gladly. I did so because I believe that the citizens of Southern California are entitled to know the facts - all of the facts - relating to this great task of bringing into this area a good and reliable supply of Colorado River water.

Some two years ago, as you know, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California was established. The District is, in fact, a group of eleven cities that have joined hands as a Water District in order to solve a serious domestic water problem confronting each and every one - a water problem, incidentally, that also confronts practically every city in Southern California - a water problem that will be solved by our Metropolitan Water District.

I think you would be interested in knowing just what cities are included in this Water District. Listen sharply, because if you are a resident of any one of these eleven cities you have a direct personal and financial interest in the District. Here they are:

In San Bernardino County there are two member cities - they are Colton and San Bernardino. In Orange County are the cities of Anaheim and Santa Ana. In Los Angeles County the following cities belong to the District - Burbank, Beverly Hills, Glendale, Pasadena, San Marino, Santa Monica and Los Angeles.

Four other cities have made application to the Board of Directors of the District for permission to submit to their voters the proposition of joining the District. These cities are Fullerton, Ontario, Long Beach and Torrance. Whether or not these cities join the District is up to them to decide for themselves. There is going to be just so much water brought in by the Metropolitan Aqueduct. Every new city coming into the District means another dipper dipping into our water bucket.

The Metropolitan Water District was organized in December of 1928 because a number of Southern California cities had come to the realization that they were approaching rapidly a most disasterous water shortage unless steps were taken to bring in large additional water supplies.

For years careful engineering studies had been under way to determine from what source this urgently needed water supply could be secured. All manner of propositions for developing water here, there and the other place were investigated and thoroughly studied. But only one reliable and sufficient water source was discovered. That source was the Colorado River. The Colorado River was the one and only logical and workable water source for three very simple but important reasons:

First, there is enough water available in the Colorado River to meet the needs of the Metropolitan Water District. Second, this water can be brought to the cities in the District at a reasonable cost. Third, the necessary aqueduct can be built in time to meet our water needs.

Now, all of us in the Great Southwest are familiar with the Boulder Dam project. We know of the long years of fighting that led to the adoption by Congress of legislation authorizing the erection of a dam at Boulder Canyon. We know that actual work on this project was launched this autumn by Secretary of the Interior Wilbur.

There may be some, however, who are confused about this great engineering project. And right here and now would be a good place and time to make it plain that the Boulder Dam project and the Colorado River Aqueduct are two separate and distinct undertakings. The huge dam, which is to be known as Hoover Dam, and will be built at Boulder Canyon, will be handled entirely by the Federal Government. The Colorado River aqueduct is to be a gigantic man-made waterway reaching from the Colorado River to the cities in the Metropolitan Water District. And this aqueduct will be built and paid for by the cities in the District.

But while these great projects are physically independent, it also is important to keep in mind that the erection of Hoover Dam is essential to the success of the Colorado Aqueduct. The Colorado River water which the aqueduct will bring to our cities is now going to waste in the Gulf of California. When Hoover Dam is built the river will be so regulated and controlled that this water, now wasted will be available to our aqueduct. Without the high Hoover Dam this water would continue to rush down the river in flood time and be forever lost. Furthermore, the low priced, hydro-electric power which, in all probability, will be required to pump the aqueduct water over intervening mountain barriers, between the river and the cities, will be generated at the high Hoover Dam.

Thus, it is very clear that the Metropolitan Water District needs Hoover Dam. It will make possible our aqueduct from the Colorado River.

But we must always keep in mind that the Hoover Dam and the Metropolitan Water District Aqueduct are two separate projects.

A minute ago I said that the Federal Government actually had started work on the Hoover Dam project. This work was started last September. Then it was that Secretary Wilbur drove the silver spike and set under construction the railroad line that will carry the millions of tons of machinery and materials used in building the dam itself. Construction of the work camp is underway - getting ready to house and care for the several thousand workers who will be employed on this great job.

The Government is on the job at Hoover Dam - and things are moving - and moving rapidly over there on the Colorado River.

All of this action by the Government comes from the fact that Washington has recognized our pressing need for flood control in Imperial Valley and other valleys along the Colorado - and the imperative necessity of the Metropolitan Water District for Colorado River water. And it is doing all it can to make this water available to us.

And what are we doing to bring this water in from the Colorado River. Well, we have been on the job out here preparing actually to set under way the great aqueduct project by which we will bring Colorado River water to our homes and gardens.

Our first job has been to find the safest, the best and the most economical route for such an aqueduct. Therefore, we have been busy for more than six years - not six months - but six years - mind you - in collecting accurate and detailed engineering and geological data on every conceivable phase of this aqueduct route question. This work originally was launched by the Los Angeles Water Bureau. Since the Metropolitan Water District was organized two years ago - this task has been carried forward under the direction of Chief Engineer Frank E. Weymouth. The same Weymouth who was chief engineer of the United States Reclamation Service for many years and who made the Colorado River surveys for the Boulder Dam project - the same Weymouth who recommended Boulder Dam site as the proper site on the river for a great dam - a recommendation that withstood years of the most searching investigation and came out in the end approved and endorsed by three

Secretaries of the Interior - three Presidents and the United States Congress.

Now Mr. Weymouth only recently has filed with the Metropolitan Water District his report and recommendations on the Colorado River Aqueduct route. It is a most exhaustive report, contained in four huge volumes.

And only the other day we took the second big step in our task of selecting the best possible route for this aqueduct. We referred the entire Weymouth report to a Board of Consulting Engineers headed by Thaddeus Merriman, chief engineer of the New York City Water System and builder of the famous Catskill Aqueduct for New York - the largest water supply system in America. Other members of this Board of Review are A. J. Wiley of Boise, Idaho, and Richard R. Lyman of Salt Lake City, both consulting engineers with international reputations.

Now, it is up to these three great engineers to pass upon the entire Colorado River Aqueduct project - they have been retained to make an independent study of the problem - and to render an independent report and recommendation.

I want to tell you some interesting and important facts about this aqueduct route problem that is facing our Metropolitan Water District. Facts that affect the pocketbook, the property values and the jobs of every resident of Southern California.

Next Friday evening at 7:30 - I hope to give you some of these facts over this station. Thank you.

Radio Program - KNX - Friday Evening, December 12, 1930
7:30 p.m.

FOR MR. WALLACE

Announcement:

And now, fifteen minutes with the Metropolitan Water District. This evening KNX is pleased to present the second of a series of news interviews with William P. Whitsett, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. Metropolitan Water District means WATER - water for the eleven Southern California cities that now belong to the District - water for the other cities that may be permitted to join the District within the near future - water - life giving water from the Colorado River, the one remaining undeveloped water source capable of meeting the needs of the growing cities of this Southland.

Back in the middle west and the East where most of us came from yesterday - or a few years ago - Nature, with very little assistance from man, is managing the water situation - and doing a fairly good job of it. About the only water problem east of the Rocky Mountains is found in the fact that frequently it is too plentiful. Back there farmers and city dwellers sometimes have too much water.

Out here in this land of everlasting sunshine we are living on the edge of the great desert. When it rains in Southern California that's news - news because it doesn't happen very often. Out here we are always in need of more water because Nature has failed to give us enough of this vital necessity of life to meet our daily needs. And that's where the Metropolitan Water District comes in. It is through this governmental organization that our people are preparing to secure the water we need - water from the Colorado River.

Citizens of Southern California and the entire Southwest are interested in this Colorado River water project. That is why Mr. Whitsett, chairman of the District Board of Directors has been asked to give us the facts. Mr. Whitsett is the chairman of the board of fifteen prominent Southern California citizens selected by their respective cities to govern the affairs of the Metropolitan Water District. These gentlemen, who serve without salary or pay of any sort, desire to keep their fellow citizens in the District informed on the affairs of the District.

That being the case, Mr. Whitsett, let's get down to cases.

Will you tell us just why it is necessary for us to go clear over to the Colorado River for domestic water? Haven't we got all the water we need right here now?

And here's another one. How about this Colorado River Aqueduct the Metropolitan Water District is preparing to build? It looks like that's going to be a man's sized job. How are you going to build the aqueduct anway - and how are you going to get it across all that desert and mountain country between the Pacific coast and the Colorado River?

I'll just leave those little questions with you this evening, Mr. Whitsett, as I give you the microphone.

W. P. Whitsett Radio Talk KNX Friday, December 12, 1930
7:30 p.m.

Thank you Mr. Wallace. Good evening Ladies and Gentlemen:

Why do we need more water out here in these thriving growing Southern California cities? Where are we to find this water? And how are we to bring it in after we have found it?

Three short little questions. To answer them, however, is not so simple. The fact of the matter is that when we have answered those three little questions properly and completely we have solved for all time the greatest problem confronting the Great Southwest. And it is to the solution of this problem that the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California has dedicated itself.

Eleven cities are now members of the Metropolitan Water District. As a matter of fact, this question of securing more domestic water is one which faces all Southern California and every populated section of this region. It is not a problem resting only with the cities that now belong to the Metropolitan Water District, by any means. It would appear, however, that the eleven cities in the District have come to realize clearly the pressing nature of this water problem - and have taken the only step possible to provide for their citizens a reliable and permanent water supply.

I think that it is important to bear in mind the names of the eleven cities that have taken steps to assure their inhabitants an ample and reliable water supply. Listen, as I give you the names of the cities - and if you happen to be a resident of any one of them - you may know that your city is protecting your home, your job and your business by providing a reliable water supply. The eleven cities are San Bernardino, and Colton, Anaheim and Santa Ana, Pasadena, San Marino, Burbank, Glendale, Beverly Hills, Santa Monica and Los Angeles.

Each of these cities are in the District because they know that all Southern California faces the absolute necessity of developing additional water from an outside source - and they are just wide awake enough to get in the front line and be ready to receive the benefits that will flow from this new supply of water coming from the Colorado River.

Well, why is it - you may ask - why is it that Southern California needs more water? And the answer to that question is simply this - We are using a great deal more water right now than Nature or man is providing through local water sources. Temporarily, we are getting by - temporarily we are fooling ourselves - because we are

drawing off reserve underground water supplies-water supplies that it has taken Nature countless thousands of years to accumulate in the gravel beds below the surface of the earth. It doesn't take much of a mathematician to figure out the answer to such a situation. The answer is, of course, that where man is drawing off in one year reserve water supplies that it has taken Nature many, many years to accumulate - we very soon will reach the bottom of the water barrel.

In other words, we are overdrawing our water account. We are spending more than we are getting - and for the time being we are making up the difference by drawing on our savings account. All of us know how rapidly a saving account disappears when once we start drawing it down. Savings accounts and underground water reserves are highly desirable things to have. They come in mighty handy in an emergency. But you cannot hope to live and prosper very long on a savings account when you begin to draw it down - and the same is true of our underground water reserves.

That is why we need more water here in Southern California. It is nothing, however, to be alarmed about because we do have within our reach a large supply of good, fresh water ready for us to develop. All we need is a little civic courage, a little common sense and a large amount of energy - and we will have all the water we need.

The source of this water is the Colorado River. And we are now, right now preparing to bring a portion of this water to the cities in the Metropolitan Water District. We shall bring this life-giving water in through a gigantic aqueduct that will span the desert and mountain country that lies between the cities in the District and the Colorado River, 300 miles to the east.

That we do need this water from the Colorado River - and that we will be able economically to bring it to our homes, gardens and factories - long since has been recognized by the United States Government. The need for Colorado River water among the cities of Southern California is one of the reasons why the Secretary of the Interior, now is rushing forward construction work on the great Hoover dam.

All of us are familiar with the Hoover Dam on the Colorado River. Only the other day the House of Representatives voted another $15,000,000 of Federal funds to carry forward construction work on this great water project. Already $10,000,000 had been appropriated by

Congress - and on this money work actually was set underway last September by Secretary of the Interior Tilbur and his able assistants in the Bureau of Reclamation recently announced that contracts for the building of the construction camp will be awarded this January. Contracts for the drilling of the huge tunnels that will divert the entire Colorado River while the dam is being built are to be awarded in February. It is full steam ahead at Hoover Dam!! Our Uncle Sam plainly is determined to establish another speed record on the construction of this great water conservation project.

All of this action by the United States Government is encouraging to the cities of the Metropolitan Water District. It is encouraging because the erection of Hoover Dam is essential to the success of our Aqueduct project. Hoover Dam is needed to regulate the flow of the Colorado and to save and hold in storage the flood waters of this river. Unless the dam is built these flood waters will run to waste in the ocean and there will not be enough water in the river to meet the needs of the cities in Southern California.

The Metropolitan Water District needs Hoover Dam, just as the flood menaced valleys along the lower Colorado need Hoover Dam - and just as Nevada and Arizona need Hoover Dam - and will reap golden benefits from this project in the shape of cheap electric power for their mines and a regulated and assured water supply for feasible irrigation projects.

But we should keep this fact in mind: Hoover Dam and the Colorado River Aqueduct are two separate projects. Hoover Dam is being built by the Federal Government. It is a huge concrete dam - 575 feet high to be erected across the Colorado River about 300 miles east of Los Angeles. The Colorado River Aqueduct is to be a gigantic man-made waterway that will divert water from the Colorado River and transport this water across the desert and mountain country for a distance of about 260 miles to the cities in the Metropolitan Water District. The aqueduct will be built and paid for by the cities benefiting from its use.

Now, I believe we have answered the first two questions asked at the opening of this little talk. Those questions were-- you will remember -- first, Why do we need more water? And second, Where are we to find this water?

Now for the third question. And here it is:

How are we to bring this water to the cities in the Metropolitan Water District after we have found it? As we have already stated, we are going to bring this water from the Colorado River to our homes, gardens and factories by means of a great aqueduct - or man-made waterway - to be built by the Metropolitan Water District.

Just how that aqueduct is to be built - just what course it will follow in its journey to our cities - and how much it will cost - all these are questions of vital importance. And they are questions that have been engaging the attention of our engineers ever since the District was established.

Under the direction of Chief Engineer Frank E. Weymouth, detailed engineering surveys have been underway continuously for the past two years. Previous to that field studies were conducted for a period of four years by the Los Angeles City Water Bureau.

These painstaking surveys and studies have covered more than 60,000 square miles of territory stretching between Bridge Canyon on the Colorado River and the Coastal Plain of Southern California.

Chief Engineer Weymouth for years was Chief Engineer of the United States Reclamation Service. He is the builder of the world famous Arrow Rock Dam in Idaho - the highest dam in the world. Just before he was retained by the Metropolitan District he was in charge of extensive water projects for the Republic of Mexico - handling this work for an internationally known American engineering firm.

With this background of engineering work, Mr. Weymouth tackled the Colorado River Aqueduct job two years ago. Since that time things have been moving rapidly toward a solution of the problem.

In the course of his studies, Mr. Weymouth and his staff of experts studied and surveyed more than sixty - let me repeat that number - more than sixty possible or suggested routes for the Aqueduct.

Only recently he filed with our Board a report covering his aqueduct studies. In the meantime, the study of routes had narrowed down to about six general lines. Mr. Weymouth had studied every phase of each of these routes. In his report he set forth the advantages and disadvantages of each route studied. He also recommended to our Board the one route which his exhaustive studies indicated to him would be the best, and safest and the

most economical. The line he recommended was one which would have its intake on the river at Parker about 150 miles below Hoover Dam. From its intake it would come almost directly eastward to the cities in the District. In the course of its journey it would pass over Shavers Summit, skirt the San Bernardino mountains above Coachella Valley - and tunnel under the San Jacinto mountain in the vicinity of Beaumont and Banning.

The entire Weymouth report has been turned over to an Engineering Board of Review composed of three famous engineers. These engineers have been retained by the Metropolitan Water Board to make an independent study of the entire aqueduct project - and to recommend to the Board the aqueduct route, which - to them - appears to be the best, the safest and the most economical.

At the head of this Board of Review is Thaddeus Merriman. Mr. Merriman is chief engineer of the New York City water system - and even more important - he is the builder of the world-famous Catskill aqueduct for the City of New York - the largest water supply system in the world - and a project similar in many ways to our Colorado River aqueduct.

Associated with Mr. Merriman are A. J. Wiley, consulting engineer of Boise, Idaho, and Richard R. Lyman, consulting engineer of Salt Lake City, Utah.

It is expected that Mr. Merriman and his associates will have their report and recommendations before our Metropolitan Water Board on or about December 20th.

And when we have received their advice - we will be prepared to push forward with all speed the big job of planning and building the Colorado River Aqueduct - the greatest engineering project ever undertaken within the United States.

Next week, I desire to tell you something of why we must waste no time in pushing forward our water project - and some of the interesting facts connected with the engineers search for the best, the safest and the most economical route to be followed by our aqueduct from the Colorado River.

Thank You.

Radio Program - KNX - Friday Evening, December 19, 1930
7:30 p.m.

FOR MR. WALLACE

Announcement:

And now fifteen minutes with the Metropolitan Water District. This evening KNX is pleased to present another of its regular Friday evening news interviews with William P. Whitsett, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

In previous talks made during this period by Mr. Whitsett, he has told us of the work being carried forward by the Metropolitan Water District to prepare the way for the actual construction of the great aqueduct that will bring us water from the Colorado River. He has told us of the careful and thorough manner in which the Board of Directors - of which he is Chairman - has proceeded to solve the first big problem confronting the Metropolitan Water District. This problem as Mr. Whitsett has made so plain, is the problem of selecting the best, the safest and the most economical route to be followed by the gigantic aqueduct.

And this evening we are honored to have as the guest of Mr. Whitsett and KNX - Mr. Thaddeus Merriman, who is the chief engineer of the New York City Board of Water Supply. Mr. Whitsett will tell you more about Mr. Merriman in a moment - and I think he has secured Mr. Merriman's promise to speak to you briefly.

That being the case, I am going to ask Mr. Whitsett, right now, to take charge of the microphone. Presenting Mr. William P. Whitsett, chairman of the board of directors of the Metropolitan Water District.

W. P. Whitsett Radio Talk KNX Friday, December 19, 1930
7:30 p.m.

Thank you Mr. Wallace - Good Evening, Ladies and Gentlemen:

As Mr. Wallace of KNX just told you - I have the very great honor of presenting to you this evening one of the world's greatest water engineers, Mr. Thaddeus Merriman of New York City.

But before I ask Mr. Merriman to speak to you briefly, I desire to tell you as quickly as possible just why Mr. Merriman - the native head of the great New York City Water Supply System - has come out here to Southern California to help us.

As already stated, the Metropolitan Water District was organized and is now operating for the purpose of securing for the cities in this District an urgently needed domestic water supply from the Colorado River.

And right at this point let me give you the cities that now are in the District and are thus taking steps to provide for their inhabitants a permanent and abundant water supply. The cities are - San Bernardino and Colton; Anaheim and Santa Ana; San Marino, Pasadena, Glendale, Burbank, Beverly Hills, Santa Monica and Los Angeles.

This Colorado River water - which we must bring in if we hope to live and prosper - will be transported across nearly 300 miles of mountain and desert country, separating the cities in the District from the Colorado River. Therefore, the first big task confronting the officers and the engineers of the District is to select the very best and most economical route to be followed by the giant water carrier.

To secure the exact engineering data upon which to make the best possible selection of a route for the Colorado River Aqueduct, Chief Engineer Frank E. Weymouth of the District has been conducting exhaustive studies for the past two years, continuously.

In addition to the work of Mr. Weymouth and his staff of experts, our Board of Directors of the District, a year ago, secured the services of three other world-famous engineers - we asked these gentlemen to act as a Board of Review to render an independent recommendation on the best possible route for the aqueduct.

The three members of the Board of Review are - Thaddeus Merriman, of New York City; Richard R. Lyman of Salt Lake City and A. J. Wiley of Boise, Idaho.

These gentlemen have now practically completed their work - and on Monday they will render their report to our Board.

Let me tell you - in a few words - who these three men are -

First, Mr. Wiley. Mr. Wiley is a consulting engineer with international experience and of international renown. He has been retained as an active consultant and advisor by the United States Government on virtually every large reclamation dam project in the West. He was a consultant on the famous Arrow Rock Dam in Idaho, the Elephant Butte Dam in New Mexico - the Exchequer Dam in Central California. He has been retained by Secretary of the Interior Wilbur as a consulting engineer on the great Hoover Dam at Boulder Canyon on the Colorado River. Only today - following the completion of his part of the work of the Board of Review on our Metropolitan Aqueduct - he left for the Panama Canal where he has been called as a consulting engineer by the United States Government.

And next, - Mr. Lyman. As a resident of Utah, Richard R. Lyman for a quarter of a century has been a recognized authority on water problems of this Western country. For many years he was professor of civil engineering at the University of Utah. Perhaps one of the most notable experiences of Mr. Lyman was his service as a consulting engineer on the famous Chicago Sanitary District project. Here was an instance where - through the genius of the engineer - the flow of the Chicago River was reversed. Thus the flow of sewage into Lake Michigan was forever halted - and the water supply of 3,000,000 persons in Chicago protected against pollution. This was an engineering achievement that attracted world-wide attention.

And now, we come to Mr. Merriman, who is serving as the Chairman of our Board of Review. Mr. Merriman, as already stated, is the Chief Engineer of the New York City Water Supply System. He has the responsibility of keeping more than 7,000,000 persons supplied with abundant quantities of good, pure water.

Even more important to the Metropolitan Water District, however, was Mr. Merriman's work in the designing and construction of the Catskill Aqueduct, the largest water supply system in the world.

The Catskill aqueduct of New York City is similar in many ways to the Metropolitan Aqueduct project.

But let us have Mr. Merriman himself, tell us something of his New York City Water System and how it compares - if it can be compared - with the aqueduct we are going to build from the Colorado River.

It gives me great pleasure to present Mr. Thaddeus Merriman, chairman of the Board of Review of the Metropolitan Water District.

Neenah
SUCCESS BOND
RAG LG TENT

Radio Program - KNX - Friday Evening, December 26, 1930
7:30 p.m.

FOR MR. WALLACE

Announcement:

Now comes fifteen minutes with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. This evening KNX presents another of a series of news interviews with Chairman William P. Whitsett of the board of directors of the Metropolitan Water District.

The Metropolitan Water District - as we all know - is the governmental organization through which eleven cities in Southern California now are preparing to build and operate a great aqueduct - or water supply line - from the Colorado River.

Water is one of the necessities of life for which there is always a great need in our otherwise almost perfect Southern California. Sunshine we have - sunshine so brilliant and so constant that it has brought to this corner of the United States a growing flood of new residents from every corner of our country. But all of us know that we cannot hope to have sunshine and rain coming down upon us from the same sky - at the same time - that's why we are a little short on water. And that's why the people of this region are always interested in the subject of water.

We must have water to live - and to grow - Nature has not given us enough water from local sources to meet the present needs of our people - to say nothing of our needs in the immediate future. That does not mean that we must go without this water. It only means that we must go out to other sources - and bring in the water we need.

That is why eleven thriving, growing wide-awake cities in this Southland have joined the Metropolitan Water District.

The cities now in the District are San Bernardino and Colton - Santa Ana and Anaheim - San Marino, Pasadena, Glendale, Burbank, Beverly Hills, Santa Monica and Los Angeles. Four other cities have secured permission from the Water District to vote upon the question of joining the District. These four cities are Ontario and Fullerton - Torrance and Long Beach.

The great aqueduct project by which the Metropolitan Water District is to bring this Colorado River water to the homes and the factories of the people living within the District has aroused the interest of the engineering world. All of us in Southern California are

deeply interested in this project - interested because it will bring to us an abundant and a perpetual water supply - interested because it will secure and insure the value of our homes and our business enterprises - interested because it will enable this country to grow as it never has grown before - and thus create more work and more prosperity for us all.

When we come to consider an undertaking so large and so vitally important as is the Metropolitan Aqueduct from the Colorado River - we want reliable and official information on the subject. That is why Chairman William P. Whitsett of the Metropolitan Water Board has been prevailed upon to come up here and tell us something of the great aqueduct project.

Mr. Whitsett is chairman of the board of fifteen directors who govern the affairs of the Metropolitan Water District. These directors represent the eleven cities in the District - they are selected by the chief executive officer of their respective cities and serve without salary.

One of the very first big problems that faced the directors of the Metropolitan District was that of selecting the safest, the most practicable and the most economical route for the waterway that must be constructed to bring Colorado River water over some 260 miles of mountain and desert country lying between the river and the cities in the District.

More than six years of engineering survey work was conducted to secure all of the data upon which to base a selection of the best possible aqueduct route. These exhaustive studies have been carried forward during the past two years under the direction of Chief Engineer Frank E. Weymouth of the District.

To assist Chief Engineer Weymouth and the directors of the District in a final selection of the best possible aqueduct route - a board of three famour engineers were retained a year ago. Only last Monday this Board made its recommendations.

Mr. Whitsett - I am sure that we would all appreciate hearing - directly from you - a brief summary of this history-making report.

Who are these engineers who have just recommended the best route for our great aqueduct? Will you be good enough to tell us - in the next few minutes - some of the

high points of their report - and to give us also your own observations on this important work.

Permit me to present Mr. William P. Whitsett, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. Mr. Whitsett -

W. P. Whitsett Radio Talk KNX Friday, December 26, 1930
7:30 p.m.

Thank you Mr. Wallace, Good Evening, Ladies and Gentlemen:

During this beautiful Christmas season of ours - some of us who once lived in a less pleasant climate - often think of the ice and the snow that almost always marked the Christmas holidays in the Middle West and the East.

Out here we have sunshine and flowers with our Christmas. But we can't have everything! Snow and ice and heavy rainstorms are certainly not so comfortable - or so beautiful as our California sunshine - but snow and ice perform one great service - they provide water - and water we must have on this earth if we are to live and to grow.

Touching upon these subjects of water and Christmas - it seems appropriate to draw attention to the fact that we Southern Californians have just received a most wonderful Christmas present - a Christmas present destined to make us more secure in our happiness out here than any gift we could have received from any source. That gift was one which came to us in the form of a report filed with the Metropolitan Water District on Monday of this week by the three distinguished engineers who had been retained to study our great Colorado River Aqueduct project. In particular, these three engineers had been instructed to recommend to the District the best and most economical route for the aqueduct we are about to build from the Colorado River.

I have said that the report rendered by these three engineers was - in reality - a marvelous Christmas present for Southern California. And so it was. For these three engineers, in their report, indicated a route for our Colorado River Aqueduct that will bring water into the cities of the Metropolitan Water District at a cost far lower than most of us had ever dared hope this great work could be accomplished.

The three engineers to whom I have referred are the members of the Engineering Board of Review for the Metropolitan Water District. They are Thaddeus Merriman, chief engineer of the New York City Board of Water Supply - Dr. Richard R. Lyman, distinguished consulting engineer of Salt Lake City, Utah - and A. J. Wiley, world famous consulting engineer of Boise, Idaho.

All of these men have backgrounds of engineering accomplishment that make them ideally fitted to pass upon the problems facing the Metropolitan Water District.

Several weeks ago Mr. Frank E. Weymouth, the Chief Engineer of our District, had filed with our Board his report and findings on the subject of the Colorado River Aqueduct route. In his report, Chief Engineer Weymouth had stated that the great mass of engineering and geological data accumulated in six years of constant study revealed to him that the best and most economical route for the aqueduct would be one with an intake on the Colorado River near Parker - about 150 miles below the Hoover Dam in Boulder Canyon.

It was also the unanimous decision of the three members of the Engineering Board of Review - that the Parker route was by far the safest, the most practicable and the most economical of all possible routes.

It may be of interest to know that more than 60,000 square miles of territory were surveyed and charted in detail by the engineers in collecting the exact data upon which was based the selection of the best possible aqueduct route.

In the course of these scientific studies - some sixty-five different aqueduct routes and variations of routes were projected and compared by the engineers.

At last - by a process of elimination - the number of general routes was cut down to nine - and these nine routes were subjected to the most searching and critical investigation. The result was the unanimous conclusion of Mr. Merriman, Mr. Wiley and Dr. Lyman that the Parker route is the safest - the most practicable - and by far the most economical - all elements of cost considered.

The Parker route - as recommended by the Board of Review - would have its intake at a point on the river near Parker, Arizona. After leaving the river it would strike westward through the Whipple and the Granite mountains. The water would be lifted at two points - and would reach its highest point at Shavers Summit about 90 miles west of the river. From Shavers Summit the aqueduct will bring the water all the remaining distance by gravity flow.

From Shavers Summit the aqueduct would skirt the foothills of the San Bernardino mountains just above the Coachella Valley. The water line would pierce the mountains themselves under the San Gorgonio Pass. After coming over onto the western slope of the mountains the aqueduct may be brought to its terminus by one of several good routes.

Total length of the Parker route is 265 miles - only 15 miles longer than the Owens River aqueduct now serving Los Angeles.

It has been estimated that the cost of building the aqueduct to deliver water into the storage facilities of The Metropolitan Water District will be approximately $198,000,000. Already there are about 2,000,000 persons living in the area that should be served by this aqueduct. And if we assume that the entire burden of this great water supply line will rest upon these two million - then the actual cost per person would amount to about two cents per day. The price of two sticks of gum - or a couple of cheap cigarets. Less than the price of a street car ride or a cup of coffee - and yet the water supply thus secured is the most vital necessity of life - next to the air we breath.

But there will be - of course - many, many more persons living in the Metropolitan Water District by the time the aqueduct is finished and these charges begin to fall due some eight years hence. Consequently, the cost actually will be less than two cents per day per person - probably about one cent per day per person.

The Parker Aqueduct route possesses may distinct advantages over every other route submitted. For instance, the Engineering Board of Review drew attention to the fact that at the Parker intake site - it will be easy to take water from the river without any sort of diversion dam. The water taken from the river will be cleared of its silt by a mechanical and economical process - similar to the processes used by Kansas City and St. Louis. In later years a dam at the intake may be desirable.

Another advantage of the Parker line is that it is the only possible route which has along its way a large natural and well located storage reservoir. Such a storage basin is especially desirable to guard against the dangers of breaks in the aqueduct - or interruptions in the flow from any cause.

One of the great advantages of the Parker route - the engineers all agree - is its safety from a geological standpoint. This route passes over the best earth formations found along any of the possible lines.

Between the Colorado River and the cities of Southern California there rises a high and rugged tableland broken by a number of mountains. Any aqueduct coming from the river must cross this difficult country. Many of the aqueduct routes studied were discarded because they would necessitate the boring of extremely long tunnels.

One of these lines would have required the boring of one tunnel 89 miles long, another 75 miles long.

On the Parker line, however, the longest tunnel will be 12 miles long - such a length - engineers point out - is well within established engineering practice.

I have presented to you in a most sketchy manner a few of the reasons that caused our engineers and the Engineering Board of Review to select the so called Parker route as the safest - the most practicable - and the most economical route than can be followed by an aqueduct from the Colorado River.

You may have some questions on this great project which I have not touched upon. If so - we would be glad to have you address an inquiry to the Headquarters of the Metropolitan Water District. Get your pencil out right now, and jot down the address. Here it is - Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, 222 South Hill Street, Los Angeles -- 222 South Hill Street, Los Angeles.

Write to the District headquarters and secure whatever first-hand information on the Aqueduct project you may desire. You may be sure that your questions will be welcomed - and promptly answered to the best of our ability.

Thank you - and Good Evening, Ladies and Gentlemen.

Radio Program - KNX - Friday Evening, January 2, 1931
7:30 p.m.

FOR MR. WALLACE

Announcement:

And now, - fifteen minutes with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. This evening at this time - KNX present another of the series of news interviews with Chairman William P. Whitsett of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District.

The Metropolitan Water District - as we all know - is the governmental organization which now includes some eleven Southern California cities - and which is now carrying forward the great engineering project of planning and building a gigantic aqueduct - or water supply line - that will bring a new and urgently needed supply of water from the Colorado River to the cities within the District.

Water is a subject that is regarded - paradoxical though it may seem - as rather dry in most sections of our country. But water is a subject of vital interest to the people of Southern California.

For instance - within the past two days we have had a little rain out here in this land of sunshine. And this rain is front page news in every newspaper in Southern California. Rain - and water - is news - big news in Southern California.

That is why Mr. Whitsett has been asked to come up here and give us reliable and official information on the great Colorado River Aqueduct project which is to be constructed by the Metropolitan Water District.

And now let me present Mr. William P. Whitsett, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. Mr. Whitsett -

W. P. Whitsett Radio Talk KNX Friday, January 2, 1931
7:30 p.m.

Thank you Mr. Wallace. Good Evening, Ladies and Gentlemen:

Everyone in Southern California should be very happy this evening - because we are certainly starting off this new year of 1931 in an ideal manner. We have started the new year with a good shower of rain - and I know of nothing so welcome - nothing so valuable to Southern California as rain - and the water it thus makes available for our use here in this semi-arid and sun-bathed region.

As Mr. Wallace has said - rain is big news in Southern California - it is big news because it comes to us so seldom and in such sparing quantities that we measure it with the greatest degree of accuracy. Every drop of water is precious - every drop is needed - and then some more drops of water which do not come to us from the clouds, we also need.

In fact these most welcome and valuable rains such as we have just had the last two days brings home to us forcefully the vital importance of water to all of this beautiful Southwestern country. I have said that these rains are most valuable - and so they are - but those of us who have come to Southern California from other sections of the country - we must not jump to the conclusion that we can depend upon these occasional rain storms for the water we require to supply our domestic requirements - much less our orange groves and our other rich horticultural products.

The fact of the matter is that the average rainfall in Southern California amounts to only about 16 inches a year. Sixteen inches of rain during the entire year - and during the past several years we have not been getting quite an average production. But our use of water amounts to far more than this 16 inches per year. On our ranches we use all the way from 24 inches to 48 inches of water a year - and in our centers of population our use is very much greater. There is one city block in Los Angeles, for example, where the amount of water consumed each year would cover that entire block to a depth of 86 feet if it were all piled up at the same time.

Now, we are not complaining about this small amount of rainfall in comparison to our water needs. We are merely stating a fact - a fact with which we are here to deal - and to work out to the best interest of all concerned. There is not one of us who would trade our marvelous sunshine - our glorious succession of warm, bright days for long days of dark, rainy weather. But we also know that we cannot hope to have sunshine and rain coming down upon us from the same sky - at the same time.

We are out here - most of us - because we love this blessed sunshine of ours - and we know that we can - if we will - bring in with our own hands - the additional water we need to make this Southern California just about as near a perfect place in which to live as man has yet discovered on the face of the earth.

To bring in this additional water - and to make this water available for our use - such is the purpose and the function of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

In the several little talks I have made over KNX during the past few weeks I have touched upon various phases of the work of the Metropolitan Water District - and the great Colorado River Aqueduct project now being carried forward by the District. And now, that we are starting out on a new year - it might be well for us to review just for a minute some of these facts.

In the first place - just what is this Metropolitan Water District? And here is the answer in a few words: The Metropolitan Water District is a governmental organization just as clear cut and as distinct in its nature as is the State of California or the County of Los Angeles - let us say. The District is - in fact- a federation of Southern California cities that have joined forces to build and operate a great aqueduct - or water supply system - from the Colorado River some 250 miles distant. At the present time there are eleven cities in the Metropolitan Water District. It is important to know which of the cities of Southern California actually are in the District - because these are the cities that have taken steps to provide for their inhabitants an abundant and an assured supply of good Colorado River water. Let me give you those cities - and note - if you will whether your city is in this list. Here they are: - San Bernardino and Colton - Anaheim and Santa Ana - San Marino, Pasadena, Glendale, Burbank, Beverly Hills, Santa Monica and Los Angeles - eleven in all.

Action has been taken by four other thriving, wide-awake Southern California communities to submit the question of joining the District to the voters in these cities. The four cities who soon will pass upon the question of joining the District are Fullerton, Ontario, Long Beach and Torrance.

As I have said the one big task faced by our Metropolitan Water District is that of building and operating an aqueduct - or water supply line - that will bring an abundant and reliable domestic water supply from

the Colorado River to the cities and the inhabitants of the District. The aqueduct will be built and paid for by the cities in the District - and it stands to reason therefore that the water brought in by the Metropolitan District aqueduct will be used exclusively by the cities within the District.

Ever since the communities of Southern California started their amazing expansion and growth some twenty years back - it has been perfectly obvious to those who seriously studied the situation that steps must be taken to bring in additional water from outside sources - if this growth was to be continued and the property values were to be maintained and permanently supported.

Now we have reached the time when we are face to face with the task and the necessity of bringing in this outside water. As already indicated - it is perfectly obvious that we cannot hope to get along by depending upon the water that comes to us locally.

To be sure - every plausible and practicable step should be taken to conserve and put to beneficial use every drop of water that falls in Southern California. But even though it were possible for us to do this thing - even then we would be far short of our actual needs. We would be short for the very simple reason that we are right now actually using a great deal more water than either Man or Nature is replacing in local water sources. To be more definite - it is estimated that we are at the present time using approximately 170 million gallons of water a day MORE than is being replaced in local water sources either by natural or artificial means.

Where are we getting that 170 million gallons of water each day that we are now using in addition to that which comes to us from natural sources? That's a fair question. And the answer is that we are now making up the deficit by drawing off our supply of underground reserve water - water which has been described as fossil water because it has required many thousands of years to accumulate - many thousands of years when there were no orange groves or no cities in this region to use up all of the water that came this way.

It is this drawing down of our fossil water reserves that is giving impetus to the work of the Metropolitan Water District. We are not alarmed about the situation. We are not alarmed - because we have learned that it is entirely feasible and practicable to bring in the additional water we need from the Colorado

River. Here we have the cities and the people - over there - at a distance of 250 miles or so, we have the Colorado River with a bounteous supply of good water now wasting into the sea. Our task is simple and plain. We must construct a water supply line that will tap the Colorado River and bring to us a portion of the water which we so urgently need and which is now flowing out into the ocean - and being utterly wasted and lost for all beneficial use.

Such an aqueduct must cross the high table-land, the several mountain ranges and the wide stretches of desert country that stand between the Colorado and the highly developed region along the Pacific ocean in Southern California. The first problem to be solved in connection with the aqueduct project - therefore - was that of selecting the best and the most economical route for this water supply line. More than six years of exact and continuous survey work and engineering investigation was devoted to this problem of selecting the best aqueduct route. Since the formation of the Metropolitan Water District in 1928 this work has been carried forward under the able direction of Chief Engineer Frank E. Weymouth. More than 60,000 square miles of territory were surveyed and charted in the course of this engineering study - an area larger than the combined areas of the states of Iowa, Delaware and Rhode Island.

Some sixty-five different aqueduct routes and variations of routes were projected and carefully examined. In addition to the work of our own Chief Engineer Mr. Weymouth, our Board of Directors of the District retained three other distinguished engineers, and gave them the responsibility of recommending the line which they found to be the best and the most economical. These three engineers were Mr. Thaddeus Merriman of New York City; Mr. A. J. Wiley, of Boise, Idaho and Dr. Richard R. Lyman of Salt Lake City, Utah.

Several weeks ago our Chief Engineer, Mr. Weymouth, submitted his report and findings on the aqueduct route problem. Only recently the three engineers on the Engineering Board of Review submitted their report and recommendations. These reports revealed that the engineers had been as a unit in their conclusions - they all agreed that the safest, the most practicable and - by far - the most economical route is one which has its intake near Parker on the Colorado River.

One of the first questions that comes to our mind when we come to consider such an undertaking as the Colorado River Aqueduct is the cost. You may be sure that our Board of Directors on the Metropolitan Water

District has given a good many days - and nights - to that problem. And so we asked the Engineering Board of Review to cover also the question of cost.

Conservative estimates made by the Engineering Board of Review reveal that the cost of the Metropolitan Aqueduct, along the Parker route, will amount to about 2-1/4 cents per day per person, based on the present population of the District. This cost includes annual interest charges on the aqueduct bonds as well as operation and maintenance expense.

Cost of the aqueduct, including terminal storage and pumping plants, is fixed at $199,618,000. Interest charges on such an investment, plus all operating and maintenance costs, actually will amount to about 1 cent per person per day on the basis of the 4,000,000 inhabitants that will be in the Metropolitan Water District 15 or 20 years hence - when the full charges on the aqueduct begin to fall due.

It is indeed comforting for us to know that the cost of this great engineering project - the greatest ever launched in America - is so well within our means. It has been said often that water is so important in Southern California - it doesn't matter much what it costs - we must have it. But nevertheless - we feel much better when we are assured that the cost of this particular project is one which need not worry us - and certainly will not burden us. Its cost - in fact - will be covered many, many times over by the new values which it will create in real property and in industrial expansion.

And now my time is about up. There are many other important phases of this great Metropolitan Aqueduct project in which I know you are interested - and about which I desire to have you informed.

We will discuss some of them next week.

And now - Good Evening - and a Happy New Year to you all.

Radio Program - KNX - Friday Evening, January 9, 1931
7:30 p.m.

FOR MR. WALLACE

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT

Announcement:

Now comes fifteen minutes with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. This evening KNX presents another of a weekly series of news interviews with Mr. William P. Whitsett, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District.

The Metropolitan Water District - as you know - is the governmental organization now preparing to build and operate a great aqueduct - or water supply system - to bring water from the Colorado River to the cities in the District. At the present time there are eleven cities in the District. They are Anaheim, Beverly Hills, Burbank, Colton, Glendale, Pasadena, San Bernardino, San Marino, Santa Ana, Santa Monica and Los Angeles.

All of us out here in the Southwest know that water - a reliable, continuous supply of water - is the life-blood of this entire region. All of us know that we are able to measure our future growth - and the security of our present property and business values in terms of water. In Southern California we have just one standard of value - and that standard is not gold - but something infinitely more precious than gold - it is water.

That is why Mr. Whitsett, Chairman of the governing board of the Metropolitan Water District, has been asked to come here and give the public official and accurate information relative to the most gigantic water supply project ever undertaken in the West - and one of the very greatest engineering projects in America.

There are two reasons which lead us to believe that this evening Mr. Whitsett has some unusually interesting news and facts to present. The first of these two reasons is that we have been having some wonderful showers these past two days - and rain means water. The second reason is that Mr. Whitsett has come to KNX almost directly from a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District. There may be some important news for us coming out of this meeting.

Therefore, let us hasten to present Mr. William P. Whitsett, Chairman of the Metropolitan Water Board.

Mr. Whitsett -

W. P. Whitsett Radio Talk KNX Friday, January 9, 1931
7:30 p.m.

Thank you Mr. Wallace. Good Evening Ladies and Gentlemen:

These past several days with their golden showers of rain have brought to Southern California a flood of confident optimism that has put a happy smile upon the faces of every resident of this region.

Out here in this semi-arid country - long on life-giving sunshine but a bit short on rain - we know the value of a drop of water, and when some of this precious liquid comes down to us from the clouds above - even though the quantity may be somewhat below our actual needs - we receive it thankfully.

I believe - most of us have taken these wonderful rains we have been having - as a sort of harbinger of the good times. Water means prosperity and growth in Southern California - and what better introduction to a new era of optimism and healthy business activity could we possibly have than these wealth producing rains.

Indeed the Year of 1931 has brought us a new period of good and prosperous times far brighter than most of us had dared to hope could come about so soon. But here they are - just as sure as we are here - and let us, therefore, make the most of a constantly improving situation.

These golden rain storms that have come to us, in fact - have brought forcefully home to us all the paramount importance of water to the health, the prosperity and the growth of Southern California. To be sure we know that we cannot hope to support our present development - much less provide for future expansion - simply by depending upon these rains which Nature occasionally gives us in this land of almost constant sunshine.

Nature has been so lavish in her gifts to Southern California that we feel just a bit reluctant to complain about the fact that she has been rather sparing in the matter of providing us with water. In a normal year - for instance - these rain storms after they have all been added up at the end of the season usually total about 16 inches - and during the past six or seven years we have been getting a good deal less than this average of 16 inches.

But we are using a great deal more than that amount of water right now. Fact of the matter is - even our horticultural and agricultural areas are using from 33 to 40 inches of water annually. And there are highly developed sections of such population centers as Los Angeles - as another example - where we are now using

as high as 86 feet - or 1032 inches - of water annually to meet the domestic requirements of water consumers.

To be more definite - we here in Southern California are now actually consuming each day 170 million gallons of water MORE than either Nature or Man is replacing. And to this statement of fact - you may very naturally inquire - where are we getting this 170 million gallons of water each day more than Nature or Man is replacing?

The answer is that we are drawing off our underground water reserves. Before the white man came to Southern California to build great cities and plant thousands of acres of orange groves - Nature was operating just about as she is now. There are indications - in fact - that she was a bit more generous with her rain than she is at present. Slowly through those thousand of years there was accumulated in the underground storage basins of Southern California a supply of water. The water was permitted to remain in its underground basins because there were no cities or growing crops to demand this water. Then came the white Man - and during the past few generations he has transformed the face of this Southern California. No longer is Nature accumulating underground water reserves - but on the contrary - we are drawing off at a rapid rate the reserve supplies so slowly accumulated through the ages.

This situation is one which demands serious attention - and immediate action.

We are indeed fortunate in that we have within reaching distance the great Colorado River with its bountiful and precious cargo of water - water which now - for the most part - is wasting into the ocean.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is a governmental organization whose function and purpose it is to bring a portion of this Colorado River water to the cities in the District. But the Colorado River lies 250 miles or more from the cities in the District. This means - of course - that we must construct and operate a gigantic aqueduct - or water supply line - to bring in this water from the river.

More than six years of constant and exhaustive engineering study has been given to the problem of selecting the best and the most economical route to be followed by such an aqueduct.

In previous talks from this Radio Station, I have described in considerable detail the reasons which

caused our Chief Engineer, Mr. Frank E. Weymouth and our Engineering Board of Review to select the Parker Route as the best and most economical route.

The purpose of these engineering investigations as I have said - was to determine the best and most economical manner to bring Colorado River water to the Coastal plain of Southern California. How this water is to be distributed to the various cities within the Metropolitan Water District is another problem - vitally important - especially to the smaller cities in the District - and a problem which also has engaged the attention of the Metropolitan Water Board for a good many months past.

As you have already been informed there are eleven cities now in the Metropolitan Water District. Now - of course - each of the eleven cities in the District is anxious to know just how it is to secure - available for its use - the water brought in by the Metropolitan Aqueduct. The question to be decided therefore was this: - Should the Metropolitan Aqueduct bring the Colorado River water to some terminal point and require each city in the District to come and get its share - or should the District assume the task of delivering aqueduct water to each city in the District? The smaller cities in the District - and particularly the cities somewhat separated from the others - naturally have been extremely interested in this question.

This evening I am happy to report that the five Los Angeles directors of the Metropolitan Water District submitted a recommendation covering this very subject at the meeting of our Board held today.

In effect - it was the recommendation of the Los Angeles directors on the Metropolitan Water Board that the District assume the obligation of delivering the water to each of the cities in the District.

This recommendation was made in a report presented today to the Metropolitan Water Board by Director William L. Honnold of Los Angeles. The report was signed by the other four directors from Los Angeles - who are Mr. John G. Bullock, Mr. I. Eisner, Mr. John R. Richards and myself.

Thus - it is the recommendation of the Los Angeles directors on the Metropolitan Water Board that every city in the District - regardless of size - be treated on an equal basis - and that every city in the District - as it is now constituted - be given the

assurance that it will get its water on a basis as favorable as that enjoyed by any other city.

And now my time is about up. However, before I close, I desire to remind you that it is the desire of the Metropolitan Water District to provide the residents and tax-payers of the District with full and authentic information at all times relative to the affairs of the District and the Metropolitan Aqueduct. If you have any questions - if you desire any information - please call the District Headquarters - and make your wants known. The address is - The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California - Headquarters - 222 South Hill Street - Los Angeles - 222 South Hill Street - Los Angeles.

Thank you - and Good Evening.

Radio Program - KNX - Friday Evening, January 16, 1931
7:30 p.m.

FOR MR. WALLACE

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT

Announcement:

Now comes fifteen minutes with The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. This evening KNX presents another of a weekly series of news interviews with Mr. William P. Whitsett, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District.

The people of Southern California - and indeed - the entire Nation - are watching with deep interest these days the affairs of the Metropolitan Water District. This widespread interest - of course - is due to the fact that the Metropolitan Water District is now preparing to launch the greatest engineering project ever undertaken within the United States. It is the Metropolitan Water District which is to build and to operate the Metropolitan Aqueduct from the Colorado River to the cities of Southern California that are in the District.

This gigantic aqueduct - or water supply line - will take water from the Colorado River and bring this life-giving liquid across mountains and desert barriers to the gates of the various cities in the Metropolitan Water District. It will be a gigantic man-made waterway built of concrete and steel. It might be described as a huge pipe line - with a diameter so large that the largest railway engine in the United States could pass through certain of its sections.

But the construction of this great pipe-line will not be such a simple operation as the laying of water mains in our streets or the installation of irrigation waterways. The Metropolitan Aqueduct - it has been indicated - will be about 252 miles long - it will tunnel through several mountain ranges, cross many deep canyons and travel over almost every sort of wild and rugged country on its long journey from the Colorado River to the Metropolitan Water District. Construction of an aqueduct capable of overcoming these natural obstacles and large enough to bring in the quantity of water needed by the District is recognized to be one of the greatest engineering enterprises in America.

Because of the vital importance of the Metropolitan Aqueduct to all Southern California - and because the people of the entire Southwest desire to be informed

officially and accurately as to the progress being made in carrying forward the aqueduct project - Chairman William P. Whitsett of the Metropolitan Water Board has been asked to come up here and present the facts.

Mr. Whitsett is Chairman of the Board of Fifteen Directors that form the governing body of the Metropolitan Water District. There are eleven cities now in the District and each of these cities is represented on this Board of Directors. Members of the Board serve without salary or remuneration of any sort. They are citizens of the cities they represent - citizens interested in protecting the interest of their own communities and the interests of the District as a whole.

This evening - I am sure - we will hear news of the Metropolitan Water District that will be both interesting and important.

We therefore are pleased to present Mr. William P. Whitsett, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

Mr. Whitsett -

W. P. Whitsett Radio Talk KNX Friday, January 16, 1931
7:30 p.m.

Thank you Mr. Wallace:

Frequently during the past ten years or so - while Southern California has been experiencing a growth in population and in horticultural and industrial activity that has amazed the world - we hear someone predict the ultimate population and wealth of this new Empire of the West.

Actually there is nothing very mysterious or complex about such a prediction. As a matter of fact - it is a very simple calculation.

We need only know the quantity of water that is to be made available to this region - to know also its ultimate population - and the total value of its possessions.

Water - water for the growing of fruits and other food stuffs - water for domestic use - water second only to air as a basic necessity of life - water is the single standard of value in the Great Pacific Southwest.

Water is King in this Southwest country because we constantly find ourselves in need of more and more of this precious commodity in order to expand the borders of our developed areas and to maintain the values of the properties already placed under intensive development.

Out here in this country of everlasting sunshine and flowers and orange groves, Nature poured out her gifts with a lavish hand - only water has she neglected to provide in quantities large enough to meet the needs of those who have come to this favored land.

United States weather records reveal that the average annual rainfall in Southern California amounts to about 16 inches - or less. And we are using - even for irrigation from 32 to 41 inches annually. For domestic use, the consumption is - of course - much more heavy.

Now, for many thousands of years Nature was giving this region an annual allotment of 16 inches of rainfall - there is evidence - in fact - that she formerly was more generous than she is today. But since there was no one here prepared to put to beneficial use any portion of this annual rain crop - a part of it soaked into the earth and was held in storage. Slowly through the passing years there was built up in these underground water basins large supplies of water - water so old and so slow in accumulating that it has been termed fossil water.

Then came the white man. It has only been a few generations past since the first white man looked down upon the golden valleys of Southern California. But during that space of time - about 150 years - Man has transformed this Southern California of ours from an empty desert-like country into one of the richest garden spots in all the world - and into a densely populated center of commercial and industrial activity.

Now, when the white man started developing this Southern California region he soon found that he could not hope to secure sufficient water from the annual rains and snow melts in the mountains to meet his annual water needs. So he sunk wells into those underground water basins that Nature had been slowly building up over the past thousands of years - and he began to draw off that accumulation of fossil water.

By the application of this water Man wrought such marvels in horticultural and commercial development that soon the eyes of the world centered upon this region. People began to pour in - and the more people that came in - the more water drawn from the underground reserves. And thus we have been progressing for a good many years.

When Man began to draw off this water more rapidly than Nature was replacing it - the outcome was inevitable. We have been exhausting our precious water reserves. ----

----Because it happened to be a center where population growth was more rapid than in other sections - the city of Los Angeles was the first community to face the situation of having a local water demand in excess of its local water supply. Twenty-five years ago Los Angeles awoke to the realization that she must take steps to bring in from an outside source additional domestic water - or face the certainty of a water shortage - and permanent stagnation.

Los Angeles found this needed water in the Owens River Valley - 250 miles to the north. She brought this water to her citizens through a great aqueduct-or water system- 250 miles long. It has been the water supplies brought down through the Owens River aqueduct these twenty years that has made possible the one million population added to the city since that water supply line was started.

Less than a year ago Los Angeles found that she was outgrowing her Owens River water supply. By the voting of a $38,000,000 bond issue - the people of Los Angeles authorized the development of additional water resources in the Mono basin region - water resources which - it has

been carefully estimated - will carry that city over until Colorado River water is brought in within the next ten years.

While engineers have been preparing to conserve and develop the water required to meet the need of Los Angeles for the next ten years - this city together with some ten other thriving communities in Southern California has been pushing forward a program of bringing in additional water from the Colorado River. It will require from eight to ten years physically to build the aqueduct and provide the other works necessary to make this Colorado River water available. It is therefore quite obvious that Colorado River water will be brought in just about the time it urgently is needed.

It was to carry forward this task of bringing in Colorado River water that eleven cities in Southern California joined forces about three years ago and formed the Metropolitan Water District. At the present time - as I have said - there are eleven cities in the District. They are Colton, San Bernardino, Anaheim, Santa Ana, Pasadena, San Marino, Glendale, Burbank, Beverly Hills, Santa Monica and Los Angeles. Four other cities have made application with the District and have been granted the right to submit the proposition of entering the District to their voters at an early election. These four cities are Long Beach, Fullerton, Ontario and Torrance.

As previously stated the one big task to be performed by the Metropolitan Water District is the construction and operation of a great aqueduct-or water supply system-from the Colorado River to the cities in the District.

The selection of the best and most economical route for such an aqueduct has been made on the basis of a six-year engineering and geological study of every possible or proposed route for such a water line. More than sixty thousand square miles of territory - a region larger than the combined areas of Iowa, Delaware and Rhode Island - have been charted and studied in the course of this investigation.

At last the selection was made by our own Chief Engineer, Mr. Frank E. Weymouth. He found that the safest, the most practicable and by far the most economical route for the aqueduct is one having its intake near Parker - almost due east of Los Angeles. The problem was likewise submitted to an Engineering Board of Review composed of three other distinguished engineers. They were Thaddeus

Merriman, chief engineer of the New York City Board of Water Supply; A. J. Wiley, consulting engineer for the United States Government on the Hoover Dam and Dr. Richard R. Lyman for twenty-six years professor of civil engineering at the University of Utah and for many years dean of the University's engineering College.

The recommendations of the Engineering Board of Review confirm the findings of Mr. Weymouth. It was the unanimous decision of the Board that the Parker route is the best.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District held this afternoon - action was taken formally designating the Parker route as the general line selected by the District as the best and most economical route.

Under Mr. Weymouth's direction engineers will now proceed to study every phase of the general Parker route in order to determine the exact line that will be followed by the great concrete and steel water carrier on its 252-mile journey from the Colorado River to the Metropolitan Water District.

There were many outstanding advantages possessed by the Parker route over every other route. In the first place it offered, by far, the most convenient and the most simple method of taking water from the river. In this connection - engineering studies reveal - it will be entirely feasible and practicable for the Metropolitan Aqueduct - for many years - to take the water it needs directly from the river without any sort of diversion wier or dam. This offers not only the very real advantage of economy but also obviates the complications and delays that might ensue if it were necessary for our District to secure the consent of an outside State for the right to erect a dam across the Colorado River.

Another great advantage of the Parker line is that it is, by far, the safest line of all these considered by the engineers - and there were some 65 different aqueduct routes so considered. The Parker route passes through the best and safest geological conditions found in the Colorado River country - it will be in less danger of damage by earth movements than any other line submitted for study.

A third advantage of the Parker route is the opportunities it offers for water storage along its line - and at its western terminus. The Parker route is - in fact - the only route which possesses a natural water storage basin midway along the line. At the western end of the line

there are some three or four alternate storage possibilities - thus the engineers and the District is given the opportunity to select the one which proves to be the best and the most economical in all respects.

Now, - I have only touched upon a few of the high spots in this mighty big question of water for Southern California and the steps now being taken by the Metropolitan Water District to meet that need.

Perhaps there is other information you may desire. If so please do not hesitate to call upon the District for the facts. The headquarters of the Metropolitan Water District are at 222 South Hill Street in Los Angeles - I will repeat the address - 222 South Hill Street, Los Angeles. The District is operating to serve the citizens in the District - we are always pleased to answer any inquiries for information - and we seek to answer such inquiries just as promptly and fully as we know how.

And now - thank you - and good evening.

Radio Program - KNX - Friday Evening, January 23, 1931
7:30 p.m.

FOR MR. WALLACE

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT

Announcement:

Ladies and Gentlemen - Now comes fifteen minutes with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. At this time KNX is pleased to present another of its Friday evening news interviews with Chairman William P. Whitsett of the board of directors of the Metropolitan Water District.

The Metropolitan Water District - as you know - is the governmental organization that will build and operate the great aqueduct - or water supply system - by which water is to be brought from the Colorado River to the several cities that belong to the District. Eleven cities in Southern California originally organized and became members of the Metropolitan Water District. These cities are: Colton, San Bernardino, Santa Ana, Anaheim, San Marino, Pasadena, Glendale, Burbank, Beverly Hills, Santa Monica and Los Angeles. On last Tuesday, January 20, the citizens of Fullerton by an overwhelming ratio of 11 to 1 voted to have their city enter the Metropolitan Water District. Fullerton therefore becomes the twelfth city in the District. Four other cities have taken steps looking toward the holding of elections to submit to their citizens the proposition of entering the District. These cities are Long Beach, Riverside, Ontario and Torrance.

Preparations for the actual construction of the great Metropolitan Aqueduct from the Colorado River is today engaging the attention and time of many of the most distinguished men in Southern California. It would appear that our leaders in business, finance and labor have come to the conclusion that this task of bringing in additional water from the Colorado River is a task of the most vital importance to the life and the continued growth of the cities of Southern California.

Chairman Whitsett of the Metropolitan Water District board of directors has devoted a quarter of a century to the study of water conditions in Southern California. That is why he has been asked to come up here each Friday evening - for the past several weeks, to give us first hand, authoritative facts on the Metropolitan Aqueduct project.

This evening, Mr. Whitsett has brought with him another distinguished citizen of California who is serving as an official of the Metropolitan Water District. He is Mr. D. W. Pontius, President of the Pacific Electric Railway Company.

Permit me at this time to present Mr. William P. Whitsett, Chairman of the board of directors of the Metropolitan Water District. Mr. Whitsett, in turn, I believe, will present Mr. Pontius who will speak to us for a few minutes.

And now - Mr. Whitsett -

W. P. Whitsett Radio Talk KNX Friday, January 23, 1931
7:30 p.m.

Thank you Mr. Wallace:

It was with a feeling of real pleasure that I came up here this evening to speak to you for a brief space upon the urgently important affairs of the Metropolitan Water District. I was especially happy to come here this evening because I brought with me - on this occasion - Mr. D. W. Pontius, President of the Pacific Electric Railway Company and a man who has long since established himself as an able and a genuine public-spirited citizen.

Several weeks ago Mr. Pontius accepted appointment to the office of Controller for the Metropolitan Water District and he is handling the important duties of this responsible office in the same masterful fashion with which he conducts the affairs of his railway corporation. The main difference is that for his services with the Metropolitan Water District, Mr. Pontius is receiving not one cent in salary.

Ever since the establishment of the Metropolitan Water District some two years ago, our Board of Directors has keenly realized the grave importance of the task that confronted the District. We are faced with the responsibility of planning, building and operating the greatest domestic water supply system in the world. It is a big job. And we came to the conclusion that it should call to its assistance the biggest men in Southern California.

That is why it was decided to draft Mr. Charles H. Toll, First Vice-President of the Security First-National Bank of Los Angeles to fill the office of Treasurer of the District. And Mr. Toll, also serving without salary, now is giving his invaluable services to the District.

That is why we drafted Mr. Pontius - and refused to take "No" for an answer when our Board decided that he was the man who could best handle the duties of Controller of the District.

We have asked Mr. Pontius to speak to us briefly this evening on one subject that is now engrossing the attention of all Southern California - and that subject is water - more water to meet our growing needs.

It is with a great deal of pleasure that I present the Controller of the Metropolitan Water District - Mr. D. W. Pontius -

Radio Program - KNX - Friday Evening, January 30, 1931
7:30 p.m.

FOR MR. WALLACE

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT

Announcement:

And now - ladies and gentlemen - comes fifteen minutes with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

The Metropolitan Water District - as you know - is the governmental organization now preparing to build and to operate - for the benefit of the people living in the District - the great Metropolitan Aqueduct from the Colorado River. It is through this aqueduct - or water supply line - that the people living in the District are to secure abundant supplies of good, Colorado River water urgently needed to maintain our present state of development - and urgently needed also to insure continued growth and stable property values.

The Metropolitan Water District is - in effect - a federation of thriving, prosperous cities in Southern California - each one of which has determined to take the proper steps to assure the maintenance of an adequate and dependable water supply for its inhabitants.

Southern California knows that water is the life-blood of this land of sunshine. Southern California knows that its most important task today is the job of maintaining adequate and reliable water supplies. And today the eyes of the world are turning toward the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. It is this governmental organization that is preparing to launch the construction of the gigantic water supply system that will solve the water problem of the cities in the District.

In order that the public may be given accurate and official information on this great water project, Chairman William P. Whitsett of the Metropolitan Water District Board and other prominent Southern Californians in close touch with this work, have been asked to come up here and give us the facts. This evening Mr. Whitsett - not being able personally to be present - is represented by Mr. Andrew L. Gram, Executive Secretary of the Metropolitan Water Board. The special guest of the evening is a prominent citizen of Orange County - Col. S. H. Finley. Col. Finley is a member of the Board of Directors of the District - representing the city of Santa Ana - and he also is Secretary of the Board.

At this time we desire to present Mr. Andrew L. Gram, Executive Secretary of the Metropolitan Water District Board. Mr. Gram will speak to us briefly on a number of interesting and important phases of the District work on the great Metropolitan Aqueduct from the Colorado River.

Mr. Gram -

Radio Program - KNX - Friday Evening, January 30, 1931
7:30 P. M.

Thank you Mr.Wallace --

Mr. Wallace - the custodian and the master of this microphone - has just told you that The Metropolitan Water District is the governmental organization now preparing to build and operate - for the benefit of all the inhabitants of the District - a great aqueduct or water supply line - that will bring in water from the Colorado River. And he has told you that this Metropolitan Water District is - in effect - a federation of thriving, wide-awake Southern California cities that have joined forces to solve their individual water problems.

That brief bit of information is entirely accurate, and it is vitally important. It is important because it holds within itself the destiny of Southern California. Water we must secure in far larger quantities than Nature has given us in local sources, and this water we must and will secure without delay. Cities belonging to The Metropolitan Water District have taken steps to secure this urgently needed water through the Metropolitan Aqueduct from the Colorado River.

Eleven cities originally organized the Metropolitan Water District after the citizens of each of these cities had voted by large majorities in favor of such action. The eleven cities are Colton, San Bernardino, Anaheim, Santa Ana, San Marino, Pasadena, Glendale, Burbank, Beverly Hills, Santa Monica and Los Angeles.

Since the formation of the District a number of other cities, acting through their duly elected officials, have indicated a desire to join the District.

About ten days ago the citizens of the city of Fullerton, by the decisive ratio of 14 to 1, voted to join the Metropolitan Water District. Fullerton, therefore, becomes the twelfth city in the District. The District is happy to welcome Fullerton as a new member, and we have no doubt but that the people of that prosperous and growing community also are happy to know that they have taken the first big step to secure an abundant and a permanent water supply.

Other cities that have taken the necessary official steps to place before their electors the proposition of entering the District are Long Beach, Ontario, Torrance and Riverside. Only today in fact our Board of Directors received from the City of Riverside an application for permission to submit to its voters the propo-

sition of entering the District. Such permission, I am happy to report, was granted by unanimous vote of the Board.

Sevenor eight years ago most of the growing and vigorous cities in Southern California began to realize that they were drawing out of local water sources more water than either Manor Nature was replacing. And each year since, this overdraft of water has been increasing because each year the populations of these cities has increased, and consequently the use of water also has increased.

In other words, we have come face to face with the fact that our demand for water rapidly is overtaking our local supply. Our cities looked about for an outside water supply source adequate to meet their needs, and they found the Colorado River. Here in the Colorado River is water now running to waste in the Gulf of California, water in quantities large enough to meet every requirement of our cities.

The Colorado River is situated from 250 to 300 miles from the cities of Southern California. To bring Colorado River water to our cities, therefore, it is necessary to build and operate an aqueduct or water supply line.

For more than six years engineers have been engaged in the task of studying every foot of the vast region between the river and the cities in the Metropolitan Water District, in order to secure the engineering data upon which to base the selection of the best and the most economical route for an aqueduct. At last this route has been selected.

Just a few days ago, a number of the members of the District Board of Directors traveled over the route of this aqueduct line with our Chief Engineer, Mr. Frank E. Weymouth. The trip consumed three days and carried us over a vast mountain and desert region.

We saw where the aqueduct will take water from the river at Upper Parker Canyon. We saw how the line will tunnel its way through mountain barriers, and how it will cross wide plateaus by covered concrete conduits. And, as we traveled along the general line of this great waterway, the greatest the world has ever known, we came to a fuller and a clearer appreciation of the great value of this water to the cities in The Metropolitan Water District.

Among the members of the Board of Directors who made this inspection tour was Col. S. H. Finley, director from Santa Ana and Secretary of the District.

No one in Southern California more thoroughly appreciates the water problem of this section, no one more consistently and ably has given of his time and his services to solve this problem.

Last week we were pleased to have as our guest up here, Mr. D. W. Pontius, President of the Pacific Electric Railway and Controller of The Metropolitan Water District. And I believe the fact was mentioned that Mr. Pontius is giving his invaluable services to the District without any sort of salary. I might say the same of Col. Finley. As Director from Santa Ana and Secretary of the Board of Directors, he receives the same handsome salary paid to each member of the Board, and that salary is exactly nothing.

Col. Finley has consented to speak to us briefly this evening, and I am therefore extremely pleased to present him to you at this time. Col. S. H. Finley, Director for Santa Ana and Secretary of the Metropolitan Water Board:-

Radio Program - KNX - Friday Evening, February 6, 1931
7:30 p.m.

FOR MR. WALLACE

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT

Announcement:

Ladies and Gentlemen - we are now to have fifteen minutes with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. At this time KNX is pleased to present another of its Friday evening news interviews with Chairman William P. Whitsett of the board of directors of the Metropolitan Water District.

The Metropolitan Water District - as you know - is a governmental organization or governmental unit, just as the State of California - and the County of Los Angeles are separate and distinct governmental units. Its purpose is to develop a large additional water supply to meet the growing needs of the cities in the District. This water is to be made available by the construction of a gigantic aqueduct - or water supply line - that will take water from the Colorado River and bring it to the cities in the District.

The eleven original cities who organized the Metropolitan Water District about two years ago are situated in three Southern California counties. The cities are Colton and San Bernardino in San Bernardino County - Anaheim and Santa Ana in Orange County and San Marino, Pasadena, Glendale, Burbank, Beverly Hills, Santa Monica and Los Angeles in Los Angeles County.

About two weeks ago the people of Fullerton, in Orange County, voted by the overwhelming ratio of 14 to 1 to join the Metropolitan Water District. Fullerton, thus, becomes the twelfth city in the District.

Many other cities have taken steps to submit to their people the proposition of entering the District. On Tuesday, February 17, the people of Long Beach are to vote on the proposition of joining the District, and thus share in the benefits of Colorado River water. In the same way - the people of Riverside, Torrance, Compton and Ontario have taken steps looking toward entering the District.

Because of the vital importance of the Metropolitan Aqueduct project and the widespread interest in its progress - Chairman William P. Whitsett of the Metropolitan Water District board of directors has been asked to come up here and give us the facts.

This evening Mr. Whitsett has brought as his guest Mayor Paul E. Schwab of Beverly Hills. Mayor Schwab is a member of the Metropolitan Water District board of directors - representing Beverly Hills. Mayor Schwab and Chairman Whitsett are two of the fifteen members on this Board - selected to represent their respective cities - and serving the District without salary or pay of any sort.

Permit me at this time to present Mr. William P. Whitsett of the Metropolitan Water District board of directors. Mr. Whitsett will speak to us briefly and will then present Mayor Schwab who also will speak to us for a few minutes.

Mr. Whitsett -

W. P. Whitsett Radio Talk KNX Friday, February 6, 1931
7:30 p.m.

Thank you Mr. Wallace -

This radio period which is being made available to the Metropolitan Water District each Friday evening - without cost to the District - offers a real opportunity for the presentation of important facts concerning the great Metropolitan Aqueduct that now is being launched. We are glad to give such information because we realize that there is nothing so vitally important to Southern California as the development and maintenance of an adequate water supply.

During the past few days we have been experiencing a record-breaking rain storm in Southern California. As we traveled through the flooded streets it may have occurred to some of us that such a volume of water ought to solve our water problems - if we could only conserve it for future use.

But such rainstorms are rare in this sunny Southland of ours. And the volume of water which comes to us in these infrequent storms - though it may seem large as we watch it rushing down the streets during the few hours of a storm - actually is not so large when we come to consider the vast quantity of water that must be provided every day of the year to meet our present needs.

Actually, we are living in a semi-arid country. Once in a great while we are fortunate enough to receive a good rain-storm - and several million gallons of water pour down upon us from the heavens, but each and every day - rain or shine - we go right on using water - many millions of gallons every day. In Los Angeles, for example, the people are now using an average of 160 million gallons of water each and every day of the year for domestic purposes. It would take a good many rain storms to supply this actual present demand - even if all the rain water could be caught and purified after washing over germ covered pavements on its way to the ocean.

Every effort should be made - and, I am sure, will be made - to conserve and use every available drop of our local water supplies. We will need all of this water - and more - if we hope to meet the increasing demand for water during the eight or ten years that will elapse during the construction of our Metropolitan Aqueduct from the Colorado River.

Every move made in the progress of the Metropolitan Aqueduct project is of intereat and importance to each of the cities in the District - for it

is through this supply system that water will be brought into Southern California to support existing values - and make possible continuing growth.

I am delighted - therefore - this evening to have with me here in the studio a distinguished Southern Californian who has contributed a very great deal to the advancement of our Metropolitan Aqueduct project - Mr. Paul E. Schwab. Mr. Schwab is Mayor of the renowned city of Beverly Hills and also is the representative of Beverly Hills on the Board of Directors of the District.

Because of his ability and knowledge as an attorney - and his experience in the planning and management of civic affairs - Mayor Schwab has been - and continues to be - of invaluable assistance in the difficult work of setting under way our great Metropolitan Aqueduct project.

Permit me at this time to present Mr. Schwab - who will speak to you for a few minutes.

Mr. Schwab -

Radio Program - KNX - Friday Evening, February 13, 1931
7:30 p.m.

FOR MR. WALLACE

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT

Announcement:

Ladies and gentlemen - we now present fifteen minutes with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

The program to follow is another of a series of Friday evening news - interviews with Chairman William P. Whitsett of the Metropolitan Water District board of directors.

The Metropolitan Water District - as you know - is a governmental organization which is - in effect - a federation of Southern California cities that have joined forces for the purpose of developing additional water to meet their growing requirements. This urgently needed water is available in the Colorado River - and the big task now confronting the Metropolitan Water District is that of building and operating the great Metropolitan Aqueduct by which this water will be transported from the river to the cities in the District.

Eleven cities were in the original group that established the Metropolitan Water District. The eleven Cities are Colton and San Bernardino, Anaheim and Santa Ana, San Marino, Pasadena, Glendale, Burbank, Beverly Hills, Santa Monica and Los Angeles.

About three weeks ago the citizens of the City of Fullerton voted by the overwhelming ratio of 14 to 1 to become a part of the Metropolitan Water District. Thus Fullerton becomes the twelfth city in the District. Several other cities also have secured permission from the Metropolitan Water District to submit to their voters the proposition of joining the District.

On next Tuesday - February 17th - the people of Long Beach are to vote on the entrance of that city into the District. On February 21st the people of Torrance are to vote on the proposition of entering the District. Other cities that soon will pass on this same proposal are - Riverside, Compton, and Ontario.

Because of the overshadowing importance of this Colorado River Aqueduct project - Chairman William P. Whitsett of the Metropolitan Water District has been asked to come up here and give us the facts.

This evening Mr. Whitsett has brought - as his special guest - Mr. Charles H. Toll, Senior Vice-President of the Security-First National Bank of Los Angeles. Mr. Toll - also - is Treasurer of the Metropolitan Water District.

We desire now to present Mr. Whitsett, Chairman of the board of directors of the Metropolitan Water District. Mr. Whitsett, in turn - will present Mr. Toll - who also will speak to us briefly.

Mr. Whitsett -

W. P. Whitsett - Radio Talk KNX Friday, February 13, 1931
7:30 p.m.

Thank you Mr. Wallace -

Out here in Southern California where Man is building a great Empire on the edge of the Desert - we must devote a good portion of our thought and our energy to the task of providing and maintaining adequate water supplies.

If we could have--throughout the year--a frequent recurrance of the rain storms that have been visiting us during these last few days - we doubtless would have no such water problem to command our attention. But - if we should have such frequent rains - then - of course - we would have to go without our golden sunshine. That would not be a good trade. Because - we have it within our power to reach out and bring in the water we need - but we could never duplicate the beauty, the comfort and the life-giving qualities of our glorious sunshine.

I say it is within our power to reach out and bring to our cities and other populated areas the water we so urgently need to maintain the high state of development we - thus far - have wrought in Southern California - and to enable us to continue to grow and to prosper in the future. It is to this very task - in fact - that the Metropolitan Water District is dedicated - it is to the successful and economical accomplishment of this task that the District is now bending every fiber of its energy and its ability.

It is a big job and a vitally important one - this task of bringing in from the Colorado River a large supply of water for the benefit of the cities in the Metropolitan Water District. Since there is no problem in Southern California more urgent - or more all-important than this water problem - it has commanded the attention and the active cooperation of the most capable and distinguished citizens in this region.

I am happy to have as my guest up here this evening one of the gentlemen who is giving of his time, his wisdom and his long experience to the work of the Metropolitan Water District. This man is Mr. Charles H. Toll.

Mr. Toll is the senior Vice-President of the Security-First National Bank of Los Angeles, and is also Treasurer of the Metropolitan Water District. He is serving the District without salary, or pay of any kind.

We believe it is a most fortunate circumstance

that the District has secured the invaluable services of Mr. Toll as Treasurer. In banking circles - where Mr. Toll has been a leading figure for many years - he is regarded as one of the most conservative officers of a most conservative banking institution. In public life - Mr. Toll has long been known for his public-spirited interest in all community problems.

Mr. Toll - in fact - is one of the pioneers among those who have been working with this Southern California water problem. When the City of Los Angeles established its municipally-owned water system nearly thirty years go - Mr. Toll served as a member of the first Board of Water Commissioners of the Los Angeles Water Department. He had maintained his active and most helpful interest in the water problem of this metropolitan area, continuously, ever since.

It is with a great deal of pleasure - therefore - that I present Mr. Charles H. Toll, Senior Vice-President of the Security-First National Bank of Los Angeles - and Treasurer of the Metropolitan Water District.

Mr. Toll -

Radio Program - KNX - Friday Evening, February 20, 1931
7:30 p.m.

FOR MR. WALLACE

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT

Announcement:

Ladies and Gentlemen - we are now to have Fifteen Minutes with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

At this time KNX is pleased to present another of its Friday evening news interviews with Chairman William P. Whitsett of the Metropolitan Water District.

Water - water to use in our factories - in our stores - water for our homes. Water to support continuing growth - Water to enable us to live.

Water is the life blood of the West. And ever since the first white man blazed the first daring trail into the Great Southwest - men have been working and fighting - and frequently dying - to secure enough water with which to live and grow in this beautiful Western country.

To most of us sitting snugly in our offices and our homes - the water problem has been simplified to the point where all we need do is - turn a faucet. But behind that little faucet is a story of romance and engineering vision unparalleled in all the works of Man. Far out on wind-swept mountain peaks - out on the shifting sands of the desert - out on the banks of the great Colorado River - men today were toiling and planning to keep the water running in that little water faucet in your home and in mine.

Now for a few minutes we will have the opportunity to hear just why these men are out there on the desert working on OUR water problem.

First let us hear for a few minutes from Mr. William P. Whitsett, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District. Mr. Whitsett has as his special guest up here this evening, Mr. John R. Richards, one of the directors from Los Angeles on the Metropolitan Water Board.

We desire now to present Mr. Whitsett - and Mr. Whitsett - in turn - will present Mr. Richards - who will also speak to us briefly.

Mr. Whitsett -

W. P. Whitsett - Radio Talk KNX Friday, February 20, 1931
7:30 p.m.

Thank you Mr. Wallace -

When men are planning and working to keep several million persons supplied with such a vital necessity of life as water - they are inclined to take their duties rather seriously to heart.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California has launched the biggest water supply project in the history of this great country of ours. Those of us in close touch with this great Metropolitan Aqueduct enterprise realize that this undertaking holds within itself the destiny of Southern California. We know that the people generally are interested in the progress being made in a project of such vital importance to every man, woman and child in this Southland.

The Metropolitan Water District - as you know - is in effect - a federation of Southern California cities that have joined forces to finance, build and share in the benefits of a great aqueduct - or water supply system - from the Colorado River to the cities in the District.

There were eleven cities in the original District. These cities are colton and San Bernardino, Anaheim and Santa Ana, San Marino, Pasadena, Glendale, Burbank, Beverly Hills, Santa Monica and Los Angeles.

About a month ago the people of Fullerton - by an overwhelming majority - voted to join the District, and last Tuesday the people of Long Beach voted decisively to enter the District - and thus assure for themselves a permanent water supply from the Colorado River.

Tomorrow - Saturday - the people of the City of Torrance - are to vote on the proposition of entering the District. Other cities - Riverside, Compton and Ontario for instance - are soon to vote on this momentous proposition.

This evening - I desire to introduce a member of the Metropolitan Water District board of directors well qualified to speak on the great Metropolitan Aqueduct project. This man is Mr. John R. Richards. Mr. Richards is that able, aggressive and public-spirited type of citizen which is needed to carry forward the responsibilities of the District.

I am most happy to present him this evening -

Mr. Richards -

RADIO Program - KNX - Friday Evening February 27, 1931
7:30 p.m.

FOR MR. WALLACE

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT

Announcement:

Ladies and Gentlemen - we are now to have fifteen minutes with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

At this time KNX is pleased to present another of its Friday evening news interviews with Chairman William P. Whitsett of the Metropolitan Water District Board of Directors.

Under the banner of the Metropolitan Water District - fourteen prosperous, growing, Southern California cities now are pushing forward plans and preliminary work on the great Metropolitan Aqueduct - or water supply line - that is to bring to the cities in the District an abundant and a permanent supply of life-giving water from the Colorado River.

There were eleven cities in the Metropolitan Water District when it was first established as a governmental organization about two years ago. The eleven original member cities are Colton and San Bernardino, Anaheim and Santa Ana, San Marino, Pasadena, Glendale, Burbank, Beverly Hills, Santa Monica and Los Angeles.

Recently, the citizens of three other municipalities voted by decisive majorities to have their cities enter the District. These three new cities are Long Beach, Fullerton and Torrance. In addition to these three new members, three other cities have taken the necessary legal steps to submit to their citizens the proposition of entering the District. Among the cities soon to vote on the proposition are Riverside, Compton, and Ontario.

Because of the overshadowing importance of this water problem in every section of Southern California - and because of the very natural interest in the Metropolitan Aqueduct from the Colorado River - Chairman William P. Whitsett of the Metropolitan District board of directors has been asked to come up here and give us first-hand and official information concerning the enterprise.

This evening Mr. Whitsett has brought as his special guest during this period - Professor Franklin Thomas of the California Institute of Technology.

Professor Thomas is the representative of Pasadena on the Metropolitan District Board of Directors - and is Vice Chairman of the Board, as well.

We desire now to present Mr. Whitsett, Chairman of the Metropolitan Water District board of directors, who will speak to us briefly. Mr. Whitsett - in turn - will present Professor Thomas.

Mr. Whitsett -

W.P. Whitsett Radio Talk KNX Friday, February 27, 1931
7:30 p.m.

Thank you Mr. Wallace -

Every day - on every side - the people of this - and every other section of the country - are being told all about some new social or economic problem. Almost every day someone is discovering a new and startling social or economic danger signal - and is presenting a ready-made solution.

We hear about so many of these problems - we are told about so many of these impending dangers - that our ears - and our minds, also - if you please - have become dulled by the continuous chatter and talk.

We become so indifferent - in fact - to an unending hub-bub about this and that and the other thing - that we get in the habit of closing our ears, and our minds also to the really important and vital problems of this country - and of our lives.

And when we get to the point where we fail to recognize these very few vital problems - then we are in extreme danger. And of all the problems, large and small, social and economic - that confront the people of Southern California - there is none - I say absolutely none - that is more important - more vital - than our water problem.

Here in this land of almost continuous sunshine - we are living in a semi-arid region - we are living on the edge of the Great American Desert. We are living where water is extremely limited in its local supplies - we are living in a land where we must reach out to distant sources and bring in large additional supplies of new water - if we hope to survive - and to grow.

This is the problem that has been presented to the Metropolitan Water District - the problem of bringing in the life-giving water so urgently needed to supply our actual and our future needs.

Every dollar invested in Southern California must be secured by an adequate and a permanent water supply - or that investment will not be worth the paper upon which it is recorded. Every business - every job - every home - must be supported by an adequate and a permanent foundation of water - or the security of that business - that home and that job has been destroyed. There are a great many things in this life of ours, we can - if we must - get along without. But we MUST have water.

This evening I desire to present to you a gentleman ideally equipped to give us all a message of value on this water problem of ours. This gentleman is Professor Franklin Thomas of the California Institute of Technology. Professor - as you were told a moment ago - is the Director from Pasadena on our Metropolitan Water District board - and is Vice Chairman of the Board.

Permit me now to present Professor Thomas -

Radio Program - KNX Friday Evening March 6, 1931.
7:30 p.m.

FOR MR. WALLACE

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT

Announcement:

Ladies and Gentlemen - we are now to have fifteen minutes with The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

At this time KNX is pleased to present another of its Friday evening news interviews with Chairman William P. Whitsett of the Metropolitan Water District Board of Directors.

Citizens of Long Beach, Fullerton and Torrance recently voted by decisive majorities to have their cities enter the Metropolitan Water District - thus making a total of fourteen cities now in the District. The other cities in the District are Colton, San Bernardino, Anaheim and Santa Ana, San Marino, Pasadena, Glendale, Burbank, Beverly Hills, Santa Monica and Los Angeles. A number of other cities - including Riverside and Compton - soon will vote on the proposition of entering the District.

The Metropolitan Water District - as you know - is a governmental organization composed of a number of Southern California cities and dedicated to the task of building and operating a great aqueduct - or water supply line - that will bring in the water urgently needed from the Colorado River.

This evening Mr. Whitsett of the District Board has brought up here as his special guest - Judge Arthur A. Weber, Director for Santa Monica on the District Board.

Permit me - at this time - to present Mr. Whitsett - who, after speaking to us briefly, will present his guest, Judge Weber.

Mr. Whitsett -

W. P. Whitsett Radio Talk KNX Friday, March 6, 1931
7:30 p.m.

Thank you Mr. Wallace.

A few days ago the News came to us that the United States Reclamation Service opened the contractors bids on the great Hoover Dam at Boulder Canyon. At the same time it was officially announced that actual work on the dam will be under way within a few short weeks.

Every citizen of Southern California and of the Southwest - I feel sure - is aware of the tremendous importance and significance of this news. When the representatives of Secretary of the Interior Wilbur opened those bids on Hoover Dam at Boulder Canyon they opened also for Southern California a new era of golden opportunity and development.

Our Federal Government is on the job. In a short time engineers and workmen will be down in that deep canyon of the Colorado River actually at work on the greatest flood control, water conservation and hydro-power project ever undertaken by the hand of men. Several thousand men will be given employment for seven or eight years. Millions of dollars worth of material - food and supplies - will be purchased and used on the project. These will be immediate benefits. But in a larger way - every day's work on the dam will bring us that much closer to the realization of the benefits of a permanent and an abundant domestic and irrigation water supply here in the Southwest.

With the United States Government at work on the Hoover Dam at Boulder Canyon - the Metropolitan Water District is preparing to push forward without unnecessary delay its even bigger job of building the great Metropolitan Aqueduct from the Colorado River.

At the present time, billions of gallons of Colorado River water are wasting each day into the sea. The Boulder Dam project will hold in storage - available for our use - the flood water now going to waste. With this water thus made available - we will be able to secure from the river the water we need. And we are to bring in this water from the river by building our Metropolitan Aqueduct.

This evening, I am happy to have up here, a man well qualified to give us important information concerning the Metropolitan Aqueduct project. This man is Judge Arthur A. Weber, Director for Santa Monica on the Metropolitan Water District Board. Our Board is indeed fortunate in having the benefit of Judge Weber's

wide knowledge and sound judgment to assist us in working out the problems that confront us.

Permit me now to present Judge Arthur A. Weber, Director for Santa Monica on the Metropolitan Water Board.

Judge Weber -

Radio Program KNX Friday Evening 7:30 p.m. March 13, 1931

FOR MR. WALLACE

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT:

Announcement -

Ladies and Gentlemen - now we are to have fifteen minutes with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

At this time KNX presents another of its Friday evening news interviews with William P. Whitsett, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District.

The Metropolitan Water District - as you know - is a governmental organization with governmental powers and functions just the same as the State of California or the County of Los Angeles has certain governmental duties and powers. The Metropolitan Water District is composed - at the present time - of fourteen Southern California cities and the particular purpose of the District is to finance, build and operate a great aqueduct - or water supply line - that will bring water from the Colorado River to the cities in the District.

The fourteen cities now in the District are - Colton, San Bernardino, Santa Ana, Fullerton, Anaheim, San Marino, Pasadena, Glendale, Burbank, Beverly Hills, Santa Monica, Torrance, Long Beach, and Los Angeles. Other cities and districts are taking steps looking toward their entrance into the District.

With the United States Government pushing forward its Boulder Canyon Dam project on the Colorado River and our own Metropolitan Water District rapidly progressing with its plans for the great aqueduct - there is - of course - an active and widespread interest in this subject. In order that the public might be presented accurate and first-hand information on a subject of such vital importance - Mr. William P. Whitsett, Chairman of the Metropolitan Water District Board, has been asked to come up here and give us the facts.

This evening Mr. Whitsett has as his special guest - Mayor Harvey E. Bruce of Burbank. Mayor Bruce is the Director for Burbank on the Metropolitan Water District Board.

Let us now present Mr. Whitsett - who will speak to us briefly and will then present Mayor Bruce.

Mr. Whitsett -

Mr. W. P. Whitsett Radio Talk KNX Friday March 13, 1931
7:30 p.m.

On Wednesday of this week Secretary of the Interior Wilbur signed the contract for the building of Hoover Dam at Boulder Canyon on the Colorado River. Within 24 hours after Dr. Wilbur had signed the contract in Washington, Mr. Frank Crowe, the General Superintendent for the Hoover Dam construction corporation, was on his way to Boulder Canyon to take charge of the work. Today the work actually had been launched. Hoover Dam - the great structure that will forever eliminate the Colorado River flood menace - Hoover Dam - the towering concrete wedge that will hold in storage for beneficial use the billions and billions of gallons of Colorado River water now flowing to waste in the sea - Hoover Dam - that will regulate the Colorado River and store the water needed by our cities here in Southern California - Hoover Dam - that will provide constructive employment for thousands of men - Hoover Dam, now - at last - actually is in the making.

To the people of Southern California - and the entire Southwest - it is a dream come true. For eight long years our people in this region worked and struggled to secure the enactment by Congress of the Boulder Canyon project bill. At last that legislation was passed - and signed by the President. Then came the task of getting the work itself under way. In this we have been fortunate. We have been fortunate in having as our Secretary of the Interior a Western man - a man who understands the water problems of the West. Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbur has pushed forward the project aggressively and wisely - until today the building of the dam is going ahead.

To the cities and the residents of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California the starting of work on Hoover Dam is of direct and vital importance.

Construction of Hoover Dam by our Federal Government gives a tremendous impetus to our Metropolitan Aqueduct project. The Dam will regulate the flow of the Colorado River. It will hold in storage the flood waters now being wasted - and a portion of this water, thus saved, will be made available for diversion into our aqueduct.

The task of building the Aqueduct itself - of course - is our task. The Government is building the Dam. We must build our own Aqueduct - - -

- - - This evening I am most happy to have with me up here a member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District who has contributed a very

great deal to the task of launching our great Aqueduct project. This man is Mayor Harvey E. Bruce, Director for Burbank on the Metropolitan Water District Board.

Permit me now to present -

Mayor Bruce of Burbank.

Radio Program KNX Friday Evening 7:30 p.m. March 20, 1931

FOR MR. WALLACE:

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT

Announcement:

Ladies and Gentlemen - we are now to have fifteen minutes with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

At this time KNX is pleased to present another of its Friday evening news interviews with Chairman William P. Whitsett of the Metropolitan Water District Board of Directors.

Mr. Whitsett, in his capacity as Chairman of the Board of Directors, is serving the cities of Southern California in their solution of the problem of water supply. The Metropolitan Water District - as you know - is the governmental organization that will build and operate the great aqueduct - or water supply system - by which water will be brought from the Colorado River to the cities that are members of the District. When the Metropolitan Water District was first organized there were eleven cities of Southern California which eagerly joined at the first opportunity. These cities were - Colton, San Bernardino, Santa Ana, Anaheim, San Marino, Pasadena, Glendale, Burbank, Beverly Hills, Santa Monica and Los Angeles. And since that time, three other cities by overwhelming votes of their populace, have elected to enter the District. These cities - Fullerton - Long Beach - and Torrance have now assumed their place as members of the District. Other cities also have taken steps which will lead to their consideration of this proposition.

In the three short years that the Metropolitan Water District has been in existence its accomplishments have been numerous - and much of the credit is due to the group of distinguished Southern California citizens who have realized that the task of bringing water from the Colorado River is of the most vital importance to the growth and life of our cities. - And these leaders in business, finance and labor are giving of their time and effort to the utmost in order to solve the problem. Chairman Whitsett, with his vast experience and study of water conditions in Southern California is excellently qualified to give us first-hand authoritative information on the Metropolitan Aqueduct.

- - -

W. P. Whitsett Radio Talk Friday evening March 20, 1931
7:30 p.m.

Thank you Mr. Wallace -

Big events are happening in the great Southwest - events which carry the utmost significance to every citizen of Southern California. At Black Canyon, there is a hive of industry - for the work on the great dam is ready to start - and in Southern California the activity expended on the project of the great Metropolitan Water District Aqueduct is no less. The Federal Government has carried forth its project with speed and efficiency - and here in the cities of Southern California we likewise have been diligently pushing forward the great Metropolitan Aqueduct project.

Our engineers are in the desert - the mountains - the valleys - completing the accurate plans which will lead to the actual construction of this aqueduct - theirs has been a task that has taken years of labor to accomplish. Their work has led to the selection of a definite route for the Aqueduct - and the final investigations will soon be complete. The route they have selected - as you know - brings the water from the river through 252 miles of desert, under or over mountains, to the thirsty cities of the Metropolitan Water District - - a gigantic water way - - a man-made river - carrying enough water to take care of the needs of seven and a half million people. It is a huge undertaking - the greatest engineering task ever attempted in this country - but with the urgent need driving us on - and with the unconquerable spirit of our citizens - it is a task which will be quickly and cheaply performed.

In this modern age of mechanical wonders - with the products of scientific research in every day use - we are inclined to think of many things as necessities - our electric lights - our automobiles - radios - telephones and railroads. But there is a substitute for all of these - Man existed and enjoyed life for countless centuries without them. If the telephone wires are blown down or the mail service is interrupted - there are other means of communication. If the light goes out, we can get candles - or resurrent the old kerosene lamp from the attic - and have light. Serious as the interruption in these services might be, there can be nothing as serious as a condition which affects the water supply of a community.

<u>There can be no substitute for water</u>.

Water is a REAL necessity - a fundamental requirement in the life of Man. And when great centers

of population are created - they are built where water is plentiful. However - often the advantages of a particular part of the globe's surface are so many and so great, that without the plentiful supply of water these centers of population are brought into existence - and then - either man must bring an additional supply of water or must lose all the advantages of his location.

And that - is the situation of Southern California. Its climate, beauty and soil have attracted millions - from all points of the world they come to Southern California to enjoy its comforts - and its joys. But our perfection is marred by one thing - when Nature so generously gave of her bounties to us - she neglected to provide the abundant supply of water - which alone - can make the enjoyment of the advantages possible.

There can be no doubt as to the need of a more adequate supply of water in Southern California.

No one needs to be told that we are living on the edge of the desert for our rainfall is often below that which the Government calls desert rainfall. Those of you who have recently made your home in Southern California may be astounded to know that since the Government has been keeping records - the rainfall of this section has been known to go as low as 5 inches a year, and the diaries of the early Padres - two centuries ago - show that there have been years without a trace of rain. The needs of our population demand at least 40 inches of rain a year. We have been able to make up this deficit by pumping water from underground levels - robbing these underground basins of a supply that has taken centuries for a meager desert rainfall to build up. The great artesian belt which once stretched throughout Southern California for 315 square miles has practically disappeared. Every year the wells are reaching deeper and deeper in their search for this water stored away so many centuries ago that engineers call it fossil water. With man using so much more water every day than nature supplies to these underground reservoirs - it is obvious that this supply will soon be depleted. And with the lowering water levels come other dangers. The danger of seepage of ocean water into the fast emptying underground basins will be a logical and natural result of our continued drain upon this supply.

And this is not a condition peculiar to any one town or any one city. Many of the Southern California cities are in the same position as far as water is concerned. We <u>must</u> get a more adequate supply - and the reasonable - logical and efficient method of solving this

problem is for all the cities that recognize the necessity and have the vision and foresight to demand its solution - to join together and work toward a common goal in the spirit and with the actions of the closest cooperation. And that - is the underlying foundation upon which the mighty structure of the Metropolitan Water District is founded. The Metropolitan Water District a voluntary organization of Southern California cities banded together to solve a common problem - the ever increasing need of water.

And from where is this water to be obtained? Two hundred and fifty miles to the east a mighty river is flowing - a mighty river that for centuries has emptied itself into the ocean with man unaware of its great potential value. And to this third largest river in the United States, turn the cities of Southern California in their urgent search of water. Within the next ten years the Colorado River for the first time in its history will be harnessed to the will of man, and water which is now wastefully emptied into the Gulf of California - will play its part in the development of the great Southwest. This will be done by two entirely separate projects - the Federal Government is now building the immense Hoover dam at Boulder Canyon - and the Metropolitan Water District will construct that most vitally important - aqueduct - from the river to the cities of the Metropolitan Water District. Two entirely separate projects - but together they hold the key to the future of Southern California.

The English say that when an American makes a speech or even gets on his feet for an announcement - one peculiar thing is noticeable. The first is that to an American a fact is not a fact unless it is given in exact figures. In the brief time that I have been talking I have carefully avoided this pitfall. The problem of the Metropolitan Water District is not one that can be realized or appreciated by the lengthy pondering over figures and statistics - the problem is fundamental and easy to understand - Southern California MUST have Water - the only place to go and get a supply anywhere near sufficient is the Colorado River and the only reasonable - efficient and businesslike manner of doing this is by an organization such as the Metropolitan Water District in which the cities with a common problem band together for a common solution.

Every natural law and every economic law, even the lessons of history tell the inevitable.

Each new era of business or civilization eclipses in complexity and greatness all others.

The business, industrial and residential empire in the building here on the Southern Coastal Plain will repeat history with a greatness beyond all others.

And its stability must rest on the firm foundation that can only be afforded by that REAL NECESSITY of life - an ADEQUATE SUPPLY OF WATER.

I thank you -

Radio Program KNX Friday Evening 7:30 March 27, 1931

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT

Announcement -

Ladies and Gentlemen: - now we are to have fifteen minutes with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

At this time KNX presents another of its Friday evening news interviews with William P. Whitsett, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is a group of 14 cities whose need of a more adequate water supply has caused them to band together under an Act of our State Legislature. These cities, by uniting together, will build the world's largest Aqueduct.

The fourteen cities now in the District are - Colton, San Bernardino, Santa Ana, Fullerton, Anaheim, San Marino, Pasadena, Glendale, Burbank, Beverly Hills, Santa Monica, Torrance, Long Beach, and Los Angeles.

For years - plans - surveys - and studies have been made - and now they are about to commence the construction of this large Aqueduct, also

The United States Government has started work on the Boulder Canyon Dam.

With these two great water projects under way - it is only natural that there is a great deal of Civic interest concerning these undertakings and the men connected with the construction of the Aqueduct feel that the public should be presented with accurate and first-hand information on a subject of such vital importance.

Mr. William P. Whitsett, Chairman of the Metropolitan Water District Board is one of these men - who is capable of giving to the public of Southern California a comprehensive picture of the building of a new River to Southern California.

This evening Mr. Whitsett has as his special guest - Mr. Chas. A. Hutchinson - member of the Metropolitan Water Board, representing the city of Colton in this great project.

Let us now present Mr. Whitsett - who speaks to us briefly and will then present Mr. Hutchinson -

Mr. Whitsett -

Mr. W. P. Whitsett Radio Talk KNX Friday, March 27, 1931
7:30 p.m.

Thank you Mr. Wallace -

One cannot but help admire the true picture of our Western spirit and compare it with that of the far East.

The old oriental philosophy - that it is better to wait for fair weather than to acquire tools with which to plow.

If our inhabitants had thought so, Southern California today, the garden spot of the earth - would have remained a desert - Nature intended it to be one.

The rain is so scarce that only desert plants, yuccas, dwarf pines flourish without mans aid - the soil is dried up by the sun. However our citizens of the West were not daunted by these conditions.

The men who have developed this region a number of years ago made the discovery that Nature had been accumulating water in a series of underground reservoirs. It had taken Nature many thousands of years to build up this underground water reserve, which has enabled man to bring about the present marvelous development of Southern California. It has been through the use of this underground water that our people have transformed what was once a desert wasteland into the most fruitful district in all the world.

Such then - is the Western attitude toward Nature - as contrasted with that of the oriental. We do not submit to existing conditions - we prepare to change them.

With a moderate and pleasing climate favorable for human activity - forests and minerals in our mountains - the fertile soils of our valleys and the commercial potentialities of our seaports - Southern California is destined to advance in wealth and population until the exhaustion of some of life's necessities imposes a limit on further expansion, for these natural resources for supporting man's activities - excepting water - are near at hand and in abundance.

The peoples of Southern California realizing this a decade ago set about to insure the future of our cities by the securing of water from the Colorado River.

The story of the great fight for water is one

of the most thrilling ever waged by man against nature and we are now upon the threshold of victory.

Our engineers have found that it is both feasible and economical to build a new river to Southern California - Our Congress has at last passed the necessary legislation and our President has signed this Bill. Bids for the construction of the Hoover Dam, a separate federal project of great assistance to our water program - have been accepted - and work has actually been launched. Hoover Dam - the huge faucet that will regulate the flow of the mighty Colorado River just as easily as a water faucet in our homes.

Safety for the people and towns in the lower valleys - constructive employment for thousands of men - storage of billions of gallons of water now flowing to waste in the Sea - are but a few of the benefits of this huge faucet or Dam.

Another part of this great story is the building of the Aqueduct itself - the part the cities of Southern California are to play.

This evening I am most happy to have one of these western engineers who - like many others - is not content to submit to existing conditions - but is helping to obtain a re-allocation of nature's most useful gift to man - WATER. This man is Mr. Chas. A. Hutchinson, City Engineer and Director for Colton on the Metropolitan Water District Board.

Permit me now to present

Mr. Charles A. Hutchinson - of Colton -

Radio Program KNX Friday Evening 7:30 April 3, 1931

FOR MR. WALLACE

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT

Announcement -

And now - ladies and gentlemen - we present fifteen minutes with The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

During this short time we shall hear important news and authoritative information on the great project of bringing water from the Colorado River to the cities of the District. And there is no one better qualified to bring us accurate - interesting and official news on this gigantic water project than Mr. William P. Whitsett - Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District.

In his capacity as Chairman - Mr. Whitsett heads a Board of eighteen directors representing the fourteen cities now in the District. These cities are - as you will recall - Anaheim, Beverly Hills, Burbank, Colton, Fullerton, Glendale, Long Beach, Pasadena, San Bernardino, San Marino, Santa Ana, Santa Monica, Los Angeles, and Torrance. Fourteen thriving - wide-awake cities - brought together in this organization by their pressing need of water.

For the past few months Mr. Whitsett has been kind enough to come up here and tell us about this most important undertaking. At times he brings with him - as his guest - another of the directors of the Board. And tonight we welcome - not only Mr. Whitsett - but also his guest - Mr. O. E. Steward - Director on the Metropolitan Board - representing the City of Anaheim. Every director of the Metropolitan Water District is serving without salary or compensation of any kind.

Permit me - at this time, to present Mr. William P. Whitsett - Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District. Mr. Whitsett, in turn, will present Mr. O. E. Steward who will speak to us for a few minutes.

Mr. Whitsett -

W. P. Whitsett Radio Talk Friday Evening, April 3, 1931
KNX 7:30 p.m.

Thank you Mr. Wallace -

I wish at this time to again thank Radio Station KNX for its most helpful cooperation. This radio period which is being made available each Friday evening to the Metropolitan Water District - without cost to the District - offers a real opportunity for the presentation of important facts concerning the great Metropolitan Aqueduct. And we are glad to give such information because we realize that there is nothing so vitally important to Southern California as the development and maintenance of an adequate water supply.

Living as we are, on the edge of the desert - dependent on a meager rainfall and rapidly diminishing underground water tables - we of Southern California cannot give too much thought to this problem. Many of us - living in cities - getting our water from the taps without giving it a second thought - are prone to forget the careful plans - the brilliant engineering feats which are necessary to keep this semi-arid country supplied with water.

And there can be no doubt but that the problem is a serious one. Without going into long reports and historical records of our rainfall and water levels - you can realize that an urgent situation does exist by noting what is happening now - today - in Southern California. According to Col. H. B. Hersey, government meterologist, all existing drouth records for Southern California were broken during the 45 day period from February 14th to April 1st.

It is the first time in 53 years that no measurable amount of rain has fallen in the Southland during the February 14 to April 1st period. This drouth has brought about a serious agricultural condition affecting our bean, wheat and other grain crops. Irrigation water levels have been lowered by constant drainage - and citrus growers already have been forced to irrigate a month earlier than normal. To date, rainfall figures are much below normal and behind last year. Only 8.97 inches have fallen so far this year, compared with the normal of 13.70 inches. And now, Mr. Kenneth L. Wolff, County agricultural commissioner, is this week making a survey of all agricultural districts in Los Angeles to determine losses and study conditions.

And so - while we are basking in the sunshine

of this beautiful spring weather - do not forget that we are paying for it - paying for it as Southern California will always pay for its sunshine. And the price exacted is - an inadequate rainfall and water supply. It is the purpose of the Metropolitan Water District to meet this condition - to solve this problem by bringing a great supply of water from the Colorado River by means of a huge aqueduct - to thirsty Southern California.

More information concerning the District and its task will be given you by Mr. O. E. Steward. Mr. Steward - representing the City of Anaheim on the Board of Directors of the District - is well qualified to speak on this subject. As an engineer, intimately connected with the water problems of our section - and as a rancher on a large scale, he has a most thorough understanding of this great undertaking.

Permit me at this time to present Mr. O. E. Steward -

Radio Program KNX Friday Evening 7:30 April 10, 1931

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. Wallace -

And now - ladies and gentlemen - come fifteen minutes with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. As you know this District is an organization of fourteen cities banded together to solve a common problem - that of water supply. This project of constructing the gigantic aqueduct - or water carrier - from the Colorado River is undoubtably the most interesting and important question facing the citizens of Southern California.

Every Friday evening for the past few months, it has been the privilege of KNX to present Mr. William P. Whitsett, Chairman of the Board of Directors. Mr. Whitsett and his guests, have given us much valuable information regarding this undertaking. Some of you may not have heard the first explanations given by these gentlemen - and so tonight I have asked Mr. Whitsett if he would summarize the various facts that have been given. And so Mr. Whitsett in order that we may correlate and crystallize this information would you explain again the relation between the Metropolitan Water District aqueduct and the Boulder Dam - would you tell us why it is necessary to go to the Colorado River - and just how and by what course that water will be brought to us? In other words, will you briefly summarize our problem and its solution?

Mr. Whitsett -

W.P. Whitsett Radio Talk KNX Friday Evening 7:30
April 10, 1931

Thank you, Mr. Wallace -

A few months ago a telegram destined to have the utmost effect upon the future of the entire Southwest was sent by Secretary Wilbur from Washington, D. C. to Dr. Elwood Mead, at Denver, Colorado. This short message read "You are directed to start work immediately upon Boulder Dam" - thus bringing to an end the long fight that had been waged for years in the Halls of Congress. Since that time the work of the Federal Government upon the immense flood control project at Black Canyon has progressed with great rapidity and all Southern California rejoined a few weeks ago when the contract was actually awarded for the building of the dam.

The Federal Governments project on the Colorado River as embodied in the Swing-Johnson bill consists of three parts. Of primary importance, of course, is the erection of the dam at Black Canyon. This dam over 700 feet high including foundation will be, as you know, the highest and the largest dam that has ever been constructed. More material, more concrete will go into this job than has been used by the Government in all of their reclamation work during the past twenty years.

The building of this immense dam and the checking of the turbulent waters of the Colorado will create an enormous reservoir - in fact, the greatest artificial body of water ever formed by Man. At full capacity, this reservoir will extend 110 miles up the Colorado River and some 60 miles up the Virgen River - a tributary which joins the Colorado above the site of the dam.

The second aspect of this project is the construction of the power plant. After centuries of wasteful emptying into the Ocean the tremendous energy of this third largest river in the United States will at last be utilized. And the revenue derived from the sale of the enormous amount of water produced at the dam will reimburse the Government for all the money expended on the dam.

The third phase of the Federal Governments project is the All-American Canal. At the present time the Imperial Valley gets its water supply - both irrigation and domestic - from a canal which starts just inside the American Line and then travels 60 miles through Mexican territory before coming back to the United States. This complicated situation will be changed by the All-American Canal which, as its name signifies, will be entirely within the territory of the United States.

That - very briefly is a summary of the Federal Governments project on the Colorado River, which includes the building of the dam, the creation of the enormous reservoir, the construction of the power plant, and the building of the All-American Canal, - and is aimed primarily at flood control and reclamation.

You can readily see that in the Federal Governments project there is no particular mention made of the great need and demand for a greater supply of water here in this section of Southern California. Actually, however, it was that need and desire for more water that put the Swing-Johnson bill across.

Here in Southern California we are living on the edge of the great American Desert. We have created an empire from the mountains to the ocean - a great industrial, residential, agricultural and metropolitan area, and in the building of this empire we have been dependent upon the desert rainfall and the stored water in the underground basins which it has taken centuries of this meager rain to build up.

When the growth and development of Southern California commenced and Man dug wells to supplement the rainfall, we started a drainage upon these underground tables which threatens to result in their complete depletion. Years ago there was a territory of 315 square miles here in Southern California where artesian water could be brought in at any point - today that has practically disappeared. All over Southern California the levels are dropping with such rapidity that we are forced to look for another supply. In some of the Pasadena levels there has been a drop as great as 15 feet in one year. Wells put in near El Segundo have brought in salt water showing that with the diminishing underground supply, comes the possible danger of seepage of ocean water.

Southern California, south of the Tehachapi has over 50 per cent of the State population, industry and wealth, and yet, aside from the Colorado River, we have here only one per cent of the water in the State of California.

And now today we are facing the most serious drouth for this season that has occurred in the last 53 years. Our rainfall for this year is far below the average and there is no indication that we will even approach last years fall, which was likewise below normal. And while we are enjoying the sunshine of this wonderful spring weather we must bear in mind that this present serious situation in threatening the crops of

all of our agricultural territory. Our rainfall conditions this year are indicative of what the future holds for us unless we take immediate steps to replenish our supply from an entirely different water shed.

Every City in Southern California faces the same problem. We are all dependent upon this desert rainfall and rapidly dwindling underground levels.

Confronted by this problem, the cities of Southern California have turned to the Colorado River, and will find their solution in the waters of that stream.

The pioneer idea of development was for each man or each community to look out for himself and let the devil take the hindmost. But here in Southern California we have reached the end of that kind of unrelated action. With the keen realization of their mutual dependency, the cities of Southern California have adopted the only reasonable, efficient and businesslike procedure - and have united in closest cooperation to solve this problem.

Prior to 1927 there was no method whereby different cities could join in the solution of such a common problem. And so a special Act of the State Legislature was passed which gave various communities the right to organize into a water district even though their territory was not contiguous - and it was under the authority of this special Act that the Metropolitan Water District came into existence.

Immediately after the passage of this Act a vote was taken in 11 cities with the result that the Metropolitan Water District officially started operation with a membership which included - Anaheim, Beverly Hills, Burbank, Colton, Glendale, Pasadena, San Bernardino, San Marino, Santa Ana, Santa Monica, and Los Angeles.

The Act not only carefully defined the structure of the District but also provided the procedure whereby other cities, with the consent of the District, might enter at a later date. Since the original formation the membership has been increased to fourteen cities by the action taken by Long Beach, Torrance, and Fullerton - these cities having recently voted by overwhelming majorities to enter the Metropolitan Water District, and it is this Metropolitan Water District - an independent political sub-division of the State of California, composed of these fourteen thriving, wide-awake towns - which will build the aqueduct from the Colorado River.

Looking forward to the Metropolitan Aqueduct a series of surveys have been conducted for the last ten years covering the territory between the cities and the Colorado River. The enormous engineering parties that have been continually in the field during these years surveyed 60,000 square miles of territory, of which approximately 20,000 square miles had never before been crossed by survey instruments. When the engineers finished their preliminary work, they reported the possibility of some 65 different ways of bringing water from the Colorado River - then it was the task of the Metropolitan Water District to study these possibilities and make a definite selection as to which was the most feasible and economical. To aid them in this task the District appointed a Board of Review composed of three internationally famous water engineers. This Board of Review under the leadership of Thaddeus Merriman, of New York City - head of the largest water system in the world, made its studies and investigations, and it was its recommendation, combined with the recommendation of Frank E. Weymouth, Chief Engineer of the Metropolitan Water District, that resulted in the definite selection of the Aqueduct route from Upper Parker.

You may be interested to hear again some of the pertinent facts concerning this route. The Intake at Parker is 150 miles south of Black Canyon where the Federal Government will build its dam. The length of this route is 252 miles and the aqueduct will have a capacity of 1500 second feet.

Thus the Metropolitan Water District aqueduct will be approximately the same length as the City of Los Angeles aqueduct from Owens Valley, but will have a capacity four times as great--carrying enough water to take care of seven and one-half million people - and incidentally the per capita cost of the Metropolitan aqueduct will be considerably less than the per capita cost of the Owens Valley Aqueduct. In other words, it was a far greater task for the handful of people in Los Angeles in 1908 to build their aqueduct than it will be for the metropolitan Water District to build this much larger aqueduct to the Colorado River.

This evening I have devoted my time to giving a brief summary of the two great projects from the Colorado River - the Federal Government's project of building the Hoover Dam at Boulder Canyon, the creation of the reservoir, construction of the power plant and the All-American Canal, aimed primarily, as I have said before, at flood control and reclamation - and then the other great project which, though closely related, is entirely

separate, and that is, of course, the building of the aqueduct from the Colorado River to the cities of the Metropolitan Water District.

The Federal Government is on the job - actual construction work is now going on at Black Canyon and we, of the Metropolitan Water District, likewise have been active in the furtherance of our project.

The work on these two immense engineering undertakings will be carried on simultaneously by these two entirely separate agencies, the Federal Government building the dam and the Metropolitan Water District building the aqueduct, and it is not an exaggeration to say that the entire future of the great Southwest, and in particular the prosperity, growth and values of Southern California are dependent upon the quick start and immediate completion of this project.

Radio Program KNX Friday Evening 7:30 April 17, 1931

For Mr. Wallace

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT:

And now -- ladies and gentlemen - come fifteen minutes with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

As you know - the Metropolitan Water District is a governmental organization composed of fourteen cities banded together for one vitally important purpose -- and that purpose is to secure for each city in the District an urgently needed supply of water from the Colorado River.

Colorado River water is to be brought to the cities in the Metropolitan Water District by means of a gigantic aqueduct -- or water supply line -- to be built by the District.

With construction work on the huge Hoover Dam at Boulder Canyon on the Colorado River actually under way by our United States Government -- and with the preliminary work on the great Metropolitan Aqueduct from the river to our cities being pushed rapidly forward -- citizens of the Southwest are intensely interested in the subject of Colorado River water for our cities of Southern California.

In order that we might secure official and accurate information on this vitally important subject -- Mr. William P. Whitsett, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District has been asked to come up here and give us the facts. And he has been kind enough to do this for us. Frequently, Mr. Whitsett has brought as his special guest speaker, another member of the Board of Directors.

This evening Mr. Whitsett is unable to be present. He is represented by Mr. Don Kinsey, Director of Public Information for the Metropolitan Water District.

The special guest speaker of the evening is Mr. Nowland M. Reid, City Attorney of Long Beach and Director for Long Beach on the Metropolitan Water District Board.

Let us now present Mr. Don Kinsey who, after speaking to us briefly, will - in turn - present Mr. Nowland M. Reid, Director for Long Beach on the Metropolitan Water Board.

Mr. Kinsey -

Radio Program KNX Friday Evening 7:30 April 24, 1931

FOR MR. WALLACE -

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT

And now comes fifteen minutes with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. This evening KNX presents another of the series of interviews with Chairman William P. Whitsett, of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District.

The Metropolitan Water District - as we all know - is the governmental organization which now includes fourteen Southern California cities - and which is carrying forward the great engineering project of planning and building the gigantic Aqueduct - or water supply line - that will bring a new and urgently needed supply of water from the Colorado River to the cities within the District.

No other section of the country looks with so much joy and relief upon the falling rainfall than does Southern California. Rain is big news here. It is big news because it comes to us so seldom and in such sparing quantities that we measure it with the greatest degree of accuracy. Every drop of water is precious - every drop is needed. The showers that have fallen in the past few days have brought to an end a record drought which has extended from the first of the year. Never before in the past fifty-three years has Southern California waited so long for its Spring rain, and even with the showers of these last two days our rainfall for this year is still far below the average - and even behind the low season of last year.

Welcoming then - as we do - this valuable rain - we must not forget that we are still living in a semi-arid country with a vast empire and population which even the heaviest of Southern California rainfall cannot supply with sufficient water. And that, of course, is why the project of the Metropolitan Water District bringing a supply from the Colorado River is of utmost importance to every citizen in Southern California. And that is why KNX is pleased to present these news interviews with Mr. William P. Whitsett and his guests.

Tonight Mr. Whitsett has as his guest Mr. John Dennis, Mayor of Torrance, and representing that city on the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District.

Mr. Whitsett will speak to us a few minutes - and then will - I believe - introduce Mr. Dennis. Permit me - then - at this time to present Mr. Whitsett -

W. P. Whitsett Radio Talk Friday evening April 24, 1931
KNX 7:30 p.m.

As Mr. Wallace stated - the Metropolitan Water District is a governmental organization composed of fourteen Southern California cities. This District has as its sole purpose the building of an aqueduct to the Colorado River and the bringing of a supply of water to the fourteen cities.

It should be clearly understood that the Metropolitan Water District is in no way connected with or interested in - any real estate selling concern - nor has the Metropolitan Water District endorsed any particular private development proposition.

It should be borne in mind that only those incorporated cities in Southern California which are in the Metropolitan Water District will secure water from the Metropolitan Aqueduct. The Metropolitan Water District is a governmental unit just as is the County of Los Angeles - for example - it has no connection with any selling organization of any sort.

It has been my privilege to visit the Colorado River many times in the past few years - and each succeeding trip, I feel, materially adds to my appreciation of the immensity and importance of our undertaking.

Boulder Canyon - the significance and magic of that name increases with each happening event - and now that the signatures of Secretary Wilbur and Doctor Elwood Mead are on the contracts - and the blasting, drilling, and moving of dirt is actually going on - the Boulder Canyon assumes an over-shadowing prominence in our lives.

Boulder Canyon - with the deep water moving swiftly between towering granite walls. I have marvelled as I gazed - stricken with the majestic splendor and awe-inspiring beauty of the Grand Canyon of the Colorado - but I confess that each trip to the site of the Hoover Dam at Boulder Canyon produces more profound emotion - more exhiliarating excitement of mind than does the grandeur of the famous Grand Canyon.

On my last trip - as I stood on the river bank at Boulder Canyon - and looked at the engineering marks and flags - I knew that Providence had indeed provided a natural dam site on this turbulent river - a dam site that would gladden the heart of any engineer. And then I visioned the Hoover Dam - that in a few years will be complete - rising seven hundred feet above the river-bed - and I saw in the minds-eye the numerous valleys below the dam - rich in potential wealth - all freed from their

overwhelming fear of disastrous flood and enjoying the safety and security that the dam would give them. And then my imagination witnessed the gloriously brilliant cities of Southern California - growing - thriving - all secure in their future - their danger of water shortage averted - depending with an unswerving faith upon a water supply taken from the Colorado River.

But - though the Hoover Dam will control the mad floods of the Colorado and give the cities of Southern California an opportunity to increase their water supply - the river is three hundred miles away - and a great aqueduct - or water supply line - must be built by these cities to the river in order to take advantage of the Federal Government's project. And as you know - the Metropolitan Water District - into which the fourteen wide-awake towns have banded - has already selected the route of this aqueduct.

And so having visited the site of the Federal Government's project - my trip then took me one hundred and fifty miles below Boulder Canyon to the Upper Parker Canyon - where the diversion of fifteen hundred second feet of water for thirsty Southern California cities will be made. Here - a portion of the water that for centuries has wastefully emptied itself into the ocean will begin its long journey over desert and through mountains until the precious cargo reaches the Metropolitan Water District.

In the early completion of these two great entirely separate projects - the Federal Government's Hoover Dam at Boulder Canyon - and the Metropolitan Water District Aqueduct - depends the stability and future of Southern California.

I have with me this evening - Mr. John Dennis, Mayor of the City of Torrance - now representing that city on the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District. Torrance, as you know, was one of the cities that recently - by a decisive vote - entered the Metropolitan Water District. And in considering the universal demand for water - it is indeed significant to note this action of such an important manufacturing and industrial center of Southern California.

At this time may I present Mayor John Dennis - Director for Torrance on the Metropolitan Water District Board.

Mr. Dennis - - -

Radio Talk - Friday evening - May 1, 1931 KNX 7:30 p.m.

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT:

And now comes fifteen minutes with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. This District - as you know is the organization of fourteen cities banded together for the purpose of increasing their water supply.

This District has found that source of supply in the Colorado River - the Colorado River - which for centuries has been wastefully emptying its waters in the Gulf of California. And now for the first time - the mad floods and enormous waste will be controlled by the great Federal Governments Hoover Dam at Boulder Canyon. Even today the blasting - the drilling - the moving of dirt is going on in those deep canyon walls. The control of these waters by the big dam gives the thirsty cities of Southern California the opportunity to increase their water supply. And while the work of the United States government is proceeding at top speed - the cities of the Metropolitan Water District have not been lax in their part of the project. The Federal Government will build the dam - but we must build the aqueduct. - And it is the construction of this great man-made water water carrier that is the task of the Metropolitan Water District.

And that is why KNX every Friday evening has asked Mr. William P. Whitsett - Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District - to come up and tell us of the progress that is being made by the Metropolitan Water District in the solution of our problem. Mr. Whitsett has with him tonight as his guest - Mr. W. Turney Fox - Director from Glendale, whom he will introduce.

Mr. Whitsett -

Mr. William P. Whitsett Radio Talk Friday Evening
May 1, 1931 KNX 7:30 p.m.

This undertaking of bringing water from the Colorado River to the cities of the Metropolitan Water District is the problem of every citizen. Those of us who are serving you as engineers or representing you as Directors are only acting for you. This is your problem. The Board of Directors - therefore - take the position that every citizen is entitled to know all of the facts in connection with the Metropolitan Aqueduct. That is the reason for these radio interviews - and that is why we are always glad to answer any questions on any angle of the project. Remember - you can always secure information at the headquarters of the Metropolitan Water District - your headquarters - located at 222 S. Hill Street, Los Angeles.

A trip from the Parker intake - westward along the line of the Aqueduct serves to emphasize the necessity - and the immensity of this Metropolitan Aqueduct. Near the river - is the Copper Basin --- the only spot in California where is found the beautiful Saguro Cactus. Facing the river - along the line of the Aqueduct there stands in majestic lonliness one of these gigantic desert plants - a pinnacle reaching to the sky - its outstretched arms raised as though in a mute protest against this water carrier which will give man his final victory over the desert - in their age old battle. On the trip westward, we see the fantastic figures that the wind erosin has formed on the Whipple Mountains - we cross the desert plains where the monotony is only broken by the green, yellow and brown cholla cactus plants. The desert road leads through numberless barren washes - across immense lava beds produced by the eruption of craters centuries ago. After traveling this rough and severe waste - we come through the San Gorgonia pass and descend to the cities of the Metropolitan Water District. And as we pass the thriving towns - the green fields and orchards we are forcibly reminded of the great contrast between the territory here - and the country we had just traversed. And then - more than ever - is it possible to realize the importance of this undertaking. For all Southern California was reclaimed from such a desert as we had just left. Reclaimed and transformed into this glowing Empire of industrial, agricultural and residential wealth only by the use of water. There is something symbolic in the fact that this Aqueduct travels over 200 miles of desert waste to reach a region we have won and taken from the desert. There is something particularly significant about its long journey across the desert -- for its precious cargo is our means of saving us from the desert.

I have with me tonight, Mr. W. Turney Fox, who will tell you more about the Metropolitan Aqueduct. Mr. Fox is the former City Attorney of Glendale and represents that City on the Board of Directors of the District. Mr. Fox has been particularly active in this undertaking and is well qualified to speak of any of its numerous angles.

Permit me - then - at this time to present - Mr. W. Turney Fox - Director From Glendale on the Metropolitan Water District Board.

Mr. Fox -

Radio Program KNX Friday Evening 7:30 May 8, 1931.

For Mr. Wallace

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT:

And now -- ladies and gentlemen - come fifteen minutes with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

As you know - the Metropolitan Water District is a governmental organization composed of fourteen cities banded together for one vitally important purpose -- and that purpose is to secure for each city in the District an urgently needed supply of water from the Colorado River.

Colorado River water is to be brought to the cities in the Metropolitan Water District by means of a gigantic aqueduct -- or water supply line -- to be built by the District.

In order that the people of Southern California might secure official and accurate information concerning this vitally important project - the Metropolitan Water District is bringing to this microphone each Friday evening either a responsible official of that governmental organization, or some other outstanding authority on the subject of water development in Southern California.

This evening, we are happy to announce that Mayor John C. Porter will be the special guest speaker of the period. Mayor Porter will be introduced by Chairman William P. Whitsett of the Metropolitan Water District Board of Directors.

Let us, at this time, present Mr. Whitsett who - after speaking to us briefly - will introduce Mayor Porter.

Mr. Whitsett -

W. P. Whitsett, Radio Talk KNX Friday Evening 7:30
May 8, 1931

Thank you Mr. Wallace -

Southern California knows -- there is no substitute for water. Southern California knows that its most urgent necessity today is that of securing additional water to replace a rapidly diminishing local supply. Southern California knows that the only available source where sufficient water can be obtained to meet our present and our future needs -- is the Colorado River.

And finally -- every citizen of this wonderful Southland of ours -- is coming to the realization that we must set underway - at the earliest possible date - the construction of the great Metropolitan Aqueduct from the Colorado River.

Because Los Angeles happened to be a section of Southern California which increased its population somewhat more rapidly than other sections -- this city was first confronted with the necessity of bringing in new water supplies - from an outside source -- twenty-five years ago. Then -- Los Angeles thought it had solved its water problems when it built the Owens River Aqueduct. But additional water brought additional people -- these new people required more and more water -- until today Los Angeles finds itself facing another water problem. Mayor John C. Porter sees this problem clearly.

Mayor Porter appreciates the overshadowing water problem that confronts Los Angeles and all Southern California today -- he knows the value of water.

Tomorrow Mayor Porter is leaving Los Angeles for a brief period, to represent his city at an international conclave in Paris, France. It is significant of his genuine interest in the water problems of his city and all Southern California - that he should consent to make his last public utterance - before his departure - an utterance upon this all important subject of our Metropolitan Aqueduct from the Colorado River.

This evening -- I know that Mayor Porter has a message of more than ordinary importance for all of us. It is with sincere pleasure - therefore - that I present to you all -- Mayor John C. Porter of the City of Los Angeles.

Mayor Porter -

Radio Program KNX Friday Evening 7:30 May 15, 1931

For Mr. Wallace

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT -

And now - ladies and gentlemen -- come fifteen minutes with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

As you know the Metropolitan Water District is a governmental organization composed of fourteen Southern California cities banded together for one vitally important purpose -- and that purpose is to secure for each city in the District an urgently needed supply of water from the Colorado River.

This Colorado River water is to be brought to the cities through a gigantic aqueduct -- or water supply system. The cities in the Metropolitan Water District are Colton and San Bernardino, Santa Ana, Fullerton and Anaheim, San Marino, Pasadena, Glendale, Burbank, Beverly Hills, Santa Monica, Torrance, Long Beach and Los Angeles.

This evening the special guest speaker is the Honorable W. E. Evans, Representative in Congress from the Ninth California District. Congressman Evans will be introduced by Chairman William P. Whitsett of the Metropolitan Water District Board of Directors.

Let us now present Chairman William P. Whitsett.

Mr. Whitsett -

W. P. Whitsett Radio Talk Friday Evening 7:30 KNX
May 15, 1931

Thank you Mr. Wallace -

To the citizens of Southern California who have been working for so many years to bring about the development of Colorado River water for the benefit of this great region -- it was most gratifying to have our State Legislature and Governor Rolph this week give ample evidence that our program is appreciated by the entire State.

When the California State Legislature convened this session - the fourteen cities in the Metropolitan District submitted to that body a number of proposed amendments to the Metropolitan Water District Act under which our District operates. These amendments spread out more equitably the financial obligations incident to the project -- and facilitated generally the building of the Metropolitan Aqueduct. Every one of the amendments were adopted by overwhelming majorities - and were promptly signed by the Governor.

Thus did our Legislators from every section of the State -- north and south alike - clearly reveal their appreciation of the urgent water problem confronting this section - and thus did they give their support to the Colorado River water development program.

Today steamshovels and workmen are in Boulder Canyon actually launching work on the great Hoover Dam. This work is going forward because Congress has appropriated sufficient money to start the work. And when we consider that our Congress is composed -- overwhelmingly -- of men from the East and Middle West - we can realize that it has been a most difficult task to secure favorable action by this national body on our Western project.

Of all those who assisted in the work of securing action by Congress on the Boulder Dam bills - no man rendered more valuable and able service than did Congressman Evans. Those of us who were in Washington when these matters were before Congress are particularly aware of the brilliant work of Congressman Evans. Because he was universally known to be impartial and fair - he was able to work with all of the Congressional factions - and thus to bring about harmonious action. Mr. Evans - by the way - is a resident of the Metropolitan Water District - his home being in Glendale.

Permit me - now to present the Honorable W. E. Evans, Congressman from the Ninth California District.

Mr. Evans -

Radio Program KNX Friday Evening 7:30 May 22, 1931.

For Mr. Wallace

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT -

And now - ladies and gentlemen -- come fifteen minutes with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

As you know the Metropolitan Water District is a governmental organization composed of fourteen Southern California cities banded together for one vitally important purpose -- and that purpose is to secure for each city in the District an urgently needed supply of water from the Colorado River.

This Colorado River water is to be brought to the cities through a gigantic aqueduct - or water supply system. The cities in the Metropolitan Water District are Colton and San Bernardino, Santa Ana, Fullerton and Anaheim, San Marino, Pasadena, Glendale, Burbank, Beverly Hills, Santa Monica, Torrance, Long Beach and Los Angeles.

This evening the special guest speaker is Mr. Walter Humphreys Director for the City of Fullerton on the Metropolitan Water District Board. Mr. Humphreys will be introduced by Chairman William P. Whitsett of the Metropolitan Water District Board of Directors.

Let us now present Chairman William P. Whitsett.

Mr. Whitsett -

W. P. Whitsett Radio Talk KNX Friday Evening 7:30
May 22, 1931

Thank you Mr. Wallace:

Southern California has received good news from Washington.

During the past few days all Southern California has had reason to rejoice over a vitally important decision rendered by our United States Supreme Court. On Monday of this week the Supreme Court dismissed the lawsuit which had been filed by the State of Arizona against the Boulder Dam project.

In a most decisive action, the Supreme Court ruled that the Boulder Canyon project Act was constitutional.

The Court has ruled that the Government has the right and the power to proceed with the development of the Colorado in a manner that will be a benefit to all states - and will harm none.

Certainly every resident of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California desires to help carry forward such a program of Colorado River development as will benefit Arizona - as well as all other sections of the Southwest. We believe that the Boulder Canyon project - as a matter of fact - will benefit Arizona more, in proportion, than any other state in the Colorado River Basin. It appears that our Supreme Court shared this view when it dismissed the suit against the Boulder Dam project.

We of the fourteen cities in the Metropolitan Water District are particularly interested in the Boulder Canyon project because we know that this great Dam will store the Colorado River water needed by our people.

We know that the United States Government is building Hoover Dam on the Colorado River. And we know that the Metropolitan Water District must build its own aqueduct - or water supply line - to bring to our cities the water from the River - almost 300 miles away.

Now, the highest Court in the nation has said in effect - "Full steam ahead for Boulder Canyon Dam and the Metropolitan Aqueduct from the Colorado River!"

Already our United States Government has started work on Hoover Dam in Boulder Canyon. It is to be expected that this work, henceforth, will be carried forward with even greater speed than in the past.

Now, it is our move out here in Southern California. If we are to share in the water benefits of this Colorado River development - we must start work on our Metropolitan Aqueduct at the earliest possible date.

With the coming of the Supreme Court decision - as I have just said - the Metropolitan Water District feels that the time for constructive action has arrived. Great progress has been made in completing all preliminary engineering and legal work on the project. Now, we stand face to face with the big task of actually building the gigantic water line.

With this situation in mind - our District Board of Directors has called a meeting of the official representatives of the fourteen cities in the District. The meeting will be held on Thursday evening - June 4th. The exact time and place of the meeting is to be announced within the next day or so.

At this meeting - our Board desires to place before the representatives of the fourteen member cities the entire Metropolitan Aqueduct program as it stands today. It is further expected that a definite plan of action for the immediate future will be discussed and considered at the coming meeting.

Of all of the cities in the District, none has demonstrated a more active and constructive interest in the great Southern California water problem than has the city of Fullerton. This wide-awake, thriving Orange County City several months ago voted by the overwhelming ratio of 14 to 1 to enter the District. It is represented on the District Board by Mr. Walter Humphreys - an Engineer who appreciates the increasing necessity of Colorado River water development. Mr. Humphreys is accurately familiar with the water needs of his own section - and he is giving of his time and his services freely to hasten the bringing in of Colorado River water to solve this serious water need.

Permit me at this time to present Mr. Walter Humphreys - Director for Fullerton on the Metropolitan Water District Board.

Mr. Humphreys -

Radio Program KNX Friday Evening 7:30 May 29, 1931.

For Mr. Wallace -

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT -

And now - ladies and gentlemen -- come fifteen minutes with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

As you know the Metropolitan Water District is a governmental organization composed of fifteen Southern California cities banded together for one vitally important purpose -- and that purpose is to secure for each city in the District an urgently needed supply of water from the Colorado River.

This Colorado River water is to be brought to the cities through a gigantic Aqueduct -- or water supply system. The cities in the Metropolitan Water District are Colton and San Bernardino, Santa Ana, Fullerton and Anaheim, San Marino, Pasadena, Glendale, Burbank, Beverly Hills, Santa Monica, Torrance, Long Beach, Compton, and Los Angeles.

This evening the special guest speaker is Mr. Orra E. Monnette, Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Bank of America National Trust & Savings Association. Mr. Monnette will be introduced by Chairman William P. Whitsett, of the Metropolitan Water District Board of Directors.

Let us now present Chairman William P. Whitsett.

Mr. Whitsett -

W. P. Whitsett Radio Talk KNX Friday Evening 7:30
May 29, 1931.

Thank You Mr. Wallace -

In considering this all-important task of maintaining adequate supplies of good water for domestic, industrial and agricultural use in Southern California -- I believe there is almost unanimous agreement on two or three fundamental points.

First. Practically every citizen of this beautiful region has come to the clear realization that we are living in a semi-arid desert country - and that we stand in urgent need of a large additional water supply.

Second. All who have stopped to think the matter over have come to realize that the only source whence we will be able to secure sufficient water to meet our needs is the Colorado River.

Third. We all know that the Colorado River is from 250 to 300 miles distant from the cities of Southern California in need of its life-giving waters. Consequently, it will be necessary for us to build and to operate a great Aqueduct - or water supply system - to bring to our homes and our factories the Colorado River water we must secure - if we are to live and to grow.

Since the organization of the Metropolitan Water District more than two and one-half years ago - work on the great Metropolitan Aqueduct project has been carried forward without interruption. This work has revolved around the engineering studies made to determine the best and the most economical Aqueduct route, and second, the completion of all the legal details incident to such a large undertaking.

Several months ago, the most distinguished group of engineers available in America passed upon the great mass of preliminary engineering studies and recommended the best and most economical route. Only a few days ago, the United States Supreme Court dismissed the lawsuit filed by the State of Arizona against the Boulder Dam development on the Colorado River.

It now appears that the time has arrived for constructive action by the Metropolitan Water District. It appears that the time has arrived for this District to launch its part of the big Colorado River water development task - time we set about the actual building of the Metropolitan Aqueduct.

On Thursday Evening of next week - June fourth - there is to be a dinner meeting at the Hotel Alexandria in Los Angeles. This meeting has been called by the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District - and is to be attended by the Mayors, other responsible city officials and heads of civic organizations representative of the fourteen cities in the District.

It is expected that every city will be represented by a dozen or more men and women. At this dinner meeting - the District will make plain the work thus far accomplished in pushing forward the Metropolitan Aqueduct. Plans for the actual construction of the Aqueduct are to be discussed and considered.

This is the largest and -- by far - the most vitally important project ever placed in the hands of Southern California. The wholehearted co-operation of every city -- every financial, business and labor organization will be needed.

This evening it is my very great pleasure to have as the special guest speaker on this Metropolitan Water District period - one of the outstanding financial and civic leaders of the Southwest - a man who has found time - in the midst of his extensive banking activities - to give serious study to the water problems of Southern California and the entire Southwest. This man is Mr. Orra E. Monnette, Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Bank of America National Trust and Savings Association.

Permit me, at this time, to present Mr. Monnette -

Radio Talk - W. P. Whitsett - Friday Evening 7:30 p.m.
June 5, 1931

FOR MR. WALLACE -

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT -

And now - ladies and gentlemen - come fifteen minutes with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

As you know the Metropolitan Water District is a governmental organization composed of fourteen Southern California cities banded together for one vitally important purpose - and that purpose is to secure for each city in the District an urgently needed supply of water from the Colorado River.

This Colorado River water is to be brought to the cities through a gigantic Aqueduct - or water supply system. The cities in the Metropolitan Water District are Colton and San Bernardino, Santa Ana, Fullerton and Anaheim, San Marino, Pasadena, Glendale, Burbank, Beverly Hills, Santa Monica, Torrance, Long Beach and Los Angeles.

On Tuesday of this week the citizens of Compton - by a ratio of about two to one - voted to have their city enter the Metropolitan Water District. Thus Compton will become the fifteenth city in the District.

This evening the special guest speaker is the Honorable Phil D. Swing, Member of Congress from the Eleventh California District and one of the authors of the Swing-Johnson Boulder Dam Bill. Mr. Swing will be introduced by Chairman William P. Whitsett of the Metropolitan Water District Board of Directors.

Let us now present Chairman William P. Whitsett -

Mr. Whitsett -

W. P. Whitsett - Radio Talk - KNX - Friday Evening,
June 5, 1931 7:30 p.m.

Everyone knows that the most vitally important and the most urgent problem confronting the cities of Southern California today - is the problem of maintaining an adequate and a reliable supply of water.

All of us know that we need Colorado River water. All of us know that the cities of the Metropolitan Water District cannot hope to survive unless we do bring in a large additional quantity of Colorado River water.

Primarily, we are confronted with the grave responsibility of securing Colorado River water to support and maintain our present population and our present wealth, jobs and property values. We also must secure this water if we hope to grow and to prosper in the future.

We know that this Colorado River Aqueduct project is well within the economic means of the District - as it is today. We know that its cost will be less per capita than was the Owens River Aqueduct, undertaken by the City of Los Angeles 25 years ago. We know that we urgently need the water. We know that the United States Government already is in Boulder Canyon actually building Hoover Dam to conserve for our use the water we need.

Now - it is up to us. It is our move. Our preliminary studies and plans have been carried forward to the point where we are ready to launch the actual job of building the Metropolitan Aqueduct from the Colorado River. The time for action has arrived.

The time for action has arrived because we urgently need the water. The time has arrived because our United States Government is now in Boulder Canyon actually building Hoover Dam, and thus going forward with its end of the bargain. Construction of the great Hoover Dam is going forward now largely because of the brilliant and untiring efforts of the California Representative in Congress who was one of the authors of the Swing-Johnson - Boulder Dam bill. This man is Representative Phil D. Swing - Member of Congress from the Eleventh California District - a man who has performed a public service for his state and the entire Southwest which it will be difficult for us ever to repay.

Congressman Swing - co-author with Senator Hiram Johnson - of the Swing-Johnson Boulder Dam bill last night addressed a wonderful gathering of 500 representatives of the fifteen cities in the Metropolitan Water District at a dinner meeting at the Hotel Alexandria. I have asked him to come up here this evening - and he has been good enough to do so.

Permit me now to present - The Honorable Phil D. Swing - Member of Congress from the Eleventh California District. Congressman Swing -

Radio Talk - W. P. Whitsett - Friday Evening 7:30 p.m.
June 12, 1931

FOR MR. WALLACE -

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT -

And now - ladies and gentlemen - come fifteen minutes with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

As you know the Metropolitan Water District is a governmental organization composed of fifteen Southern California cities banded together for one vitally important purpose - and that purpose is to secure for each city in the District an urgently needed supply of water from the Colorado River.

This Colorado River water is to be brought to the cities through a gigantic Aqueduct - or water supply system. The cities in the Metropolitan Water District are Colton and San Bernardino, Santa Ana, Fullerton and Anaheim, San Marino, Pasadena, Glendale, Burbank, Beverly Hills, Santa Monica, Torrance, Long Beach, Compton and Los Angeles.

Only today, the city of Compton - having voted by a ratio of about two to one to enter the Metropolitan Water District - officially was accepted as a member of the District by action of the Board of Directors.

This evening the special guest speaker is the Honorable Joe Crail, Member of Congress from the Tenth California District. Mr. Crail will be introduced by Chairman William P. Whitsett of the Metropolitan Water District Board of Directors.

Let us now present Chairman William P. Whitsett.

Mr. Whitsett -

W. P. Whitsett - Radio Talk - KNX - Friday Evening,
June 12, 1931 7:30 p.m.

Thank you Mr. Wallace.

Years of exacting engineering study and investigation conducted by the most distinguished engineering authorities in America have been devoted to the Colorado River Aqueduct project. Years of study have been devoted, by the best legal talent available, to the preparation of all necessary legal and legislative matters connected with this water project.

And when you have passed over all of this ground - and all this great mass of work - you get down to these five fundamental - basic points:

First: Southern California cities urgently need more water.
Second: The only source where a sufficient supply of water can be obtained is the Colorado River.
Third: The best and most economical way to bring in this water is over the Parker Aqueduct route - the route selected by the Metropolitan Water District.
Fourth: The Colorado River Aqueduct will be worth far more than it will cost - and the cost will be a reasonable one - well within our means.
Fifth: Now, is the time to start the job.

Officers connected with the Metropolitan Water District are anxious to do everything in their power to present to the people of the District all of the facts concerning the Metropolitan Aqueduct project. That is why the District today officially opened to the public a most interesting and valuable Metropolitan Aqueduct exhibit in the Title Guarantee and Trust Building at the corner of Fifth and Hill Streets in Los Angeles. The principal feature of this exhibit is the huge relief map showing every detail of the Colorado River Aqueduct route.

Today - at a ceremony conducted by the District Board of Directors - this map was dedicated and the exhibit officially opened to the public. Five gallons of Colorado River water - taken from the River at the point where the Metropolitan Aqueduct intake will be located - had been brought to Los Angeles. A tumblerful of this Colorado River water was poured over that section of the map where the fifteen cities in the Metropolitan Water District are located - and thus was symbolized the coming of the Colorado River water through the great Metropolitan Aqueduct. The map was dedicated by little

Miss Katherine Thomas, the daughter of Franklin Thomas, who is Pasadena's Director on the Metropolitan Board.

Immediately after the map was dedicated every member present at the ceremonies lifted high their glasses filled with Colorado River water - and drank a toast to the success of the great Metropolitan Aqueduct project.

This evening it is my very great pleasure and honor to have with me as the speaker of this period - one of the men of Southern California who has taken a leading and a most helpful part in the great Colorado River development program now being carried forward by the Federal Government. I refer to the Honorable Joe Crail, Representative in Congress from the Tenth California District.

As a member of Congress from California, Mr. Crail is thoroughly familiar with the Boulder Canyon project and our Metropolitan Aqueduct project. He knows how urgently our cities need Colorado River water - and he has rendered a great public service in carrying this message to Washington.

Permit me to present - the Honorable Joe Crail - Member of Congress from the Tenth California District.

Mr. Crail -

Radio Talk - W. P. Whitsett - Friday Evening 7:30 p.m.
June 19, 1931

FOR MR. WALLACE -

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT:

And now - ladies and gentlemen - come fifteen minutes with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

As you know the Metropolitan Water District is a governmental organization composed of fifteen Southern California cities banded together for one vitally important purpose - and that purpose is to secure for each city in the District an urgently needed supply of water from the Colorado River.

This Colorado River water is to be brought to the cities through a gigantic Aqueduct - or water supply system. The cities in the Metropolitan Water District are Colton and San Bernardino, Santa Ana, Fullerton and Anaheim, San Marino, Pasadena, Glendale, Burbank, Beverly Hills, Santa Monica, Torrance, Long Beach, Compton and Los Angeles.

This evening the special guest speaker is Mr. N. J. Cordary, Vice President of the Los Angeles Realty Board. Mr. Cordary will be introduced by Chairman William P. Whitsett, of the Metropolitan Water District Board of Directors.

Let us now present Chairman William P. Whitsett.

Mr. Whitsett -

W. P. Whitsett - Radio Talk - KNX - Friday Evening,
June 19, 1931 7:30 p.m.

Thank you Mr. Wallace.

In the consideration of the Metropolitan Aqueduct, there is a tendency for a few people to regard the bringing in of Colorado River water as a necessity - but as a necessity of the future.

But this water problem of ours is far more serious than that - it is an immediate problem - and demands an immediate solution. It is our present values - it is our present population - that we must protect. And while this aqueduct with its precious supply of water will have the greatest influence on our future growth and expansion - do not forget that we have now an investment of over 5 billion dollars - and a population of approximately 2 million which must find protection and stability in a permanent supply of Colorado River water.

This investment of over 5 billions of dollars and this population of 2 million - finds itself based on a rapidly dropping water level. When the development of Southern California started, Nature presented to us these underground basins that had taken centuries of a meager desert rainfall to build up. It might be likened to the presentation of a savings account in a bank. And we have called heavily on that account. We have used it to create this industrial - agricultural - and residential empire that is Southern California. We have used it to the extent that we are now taking from the account 170 million gallons of water more every day than Man or Nature is replacing. We are like a man utilizing his savings account without making additional deposits. And as the savings account in a bank rapidly dwindles when no deposits are made - just so is our water supply disappearing at an alarming rate.

This is not a question of the future - it is of the most immediate concern. Primarily, our problem is the protection of our present population and our present values. And we must act without delay - for we cannot long continue the constant drainage of our underground supply.

Tonight the special guest speaker of the Metropolitan Water District period is - Mr. N. J. Cordary, Vice President of the Los Angeles Realty Board. Mr. Cordary is vitally interested in the protection of our present values as well as providing for the future.

At this time I am pleased to present Mr. Cordary, Vice President of the Los Angeles Realty Board.

Radio Talk - W. P. Whitsett - Friday Evening 7:30 p.m.
June 26, 1931

FOR MR. WALLACE -

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT:

And now comes fifteen minutes with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. This evening KNX presents another of the series of news interviews with Chairman William P. Whitsett, of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District.

The Metropolitan Water District - as we all know - is the governmental organization which now includes fifteen Southern California cities - and which is carrying forward the great engineering project of planning and building the gigantic Aqueduct - or water supply line - that will bring in a new and urgently needed supply of water from the Colorado River to the cities within the District.

In order that the people of Southern California might secure official and accurate information concerning this vitally important project - the Metropolitan Water District is bringing to this microphone each Friday evening either a responsible official of that governmental organization, or some other outstanding authority on the subject of water development in Southern California.

This evening we are happy to announce that Mr. William B. Mathews, Chief Counsel of the Metropolitan Water District - will be the special guest speaker of this period. Mr. Mathews will be introduced by Mr. William P. Whitsett, Chairman of the Metropolitan Water District Board of Directors.

Mr. Whitsett -

W. P. Whitsett - Radio Talk - KNX - Friday Evening,
June 26, 1931 7:30 p.m.

Thank you Mr. Wallace.

During the past several days Southern California has been experiencing the sort of weather conditions that cause us to realize the vital importance of water. When the sun shines brightly and the temperature rises toward the summer elevation on the thermometer - our thoughts turn sharply toward that basic necessity of life - water. If we have a sufficient supply at hand - we are inclined to use it generously. If our water supply runs low - we are brought to a sharp and painful realization that water is the one basic necessity of life without which we cannot live.

It is this sort of warm summer weather which enables most of us also to realize that we here in this delightful Southern California of ours - actually are living in a semi-arid desert country - in a country which - by Nature - has a very meager water supply.

It was almost ten years ago that our people here in Southern California began to awaken to the knowledge that we are exhausting our local water sources - and must look to an outside source for our future and permanent water supply. And it was almost ten years ago that our people likewise discovered that the only adequate and available source for such a water supply is - the Colorado River.

Water which we so urgently need we saw wasting into the sea. But the Colorado River was an interstate and an international stream. Therefore, the citizens of the Southwest called upon our United States Government to build a great Dam to eliminate Colorado River floods and - at the same time - conserve the water needs for agricultural and domestic use.

All of us know the story of the long fight in Congress to secure the adoption of the Boulder Canyon Project legislation. We know that the battle finally was won - Congress passed the necessary legislation - our President signed the bill. And today the United States Government is in Boulder Canyon actually building Hoover Dam.

This means that the Government is going ahead with its part of the bargain. It is building the dam needed to save the water in the Colorado River. But the Dam and the river are almost 300 miles away. To transport the water from the river to our cities we must build an Aqueduct - or water supply line.

This is the job which is to be carried out by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. There are - as already has been stated - fifteen cities in this District - and they are banded together for the express purpose of financing, building and operating the great Metropolitan Aqueduct from the Colorado River.

It has been a tremendous task - this task of securing Boulder Dam legislation in Congress - and securing the enactment of state legislation governing the organization of our Metropolitan Water District - and defending these various legislative steps in the State and United States Courts of law.

In addition to those who served our State in our State and National legislative halls - Southern California has been extremely fortunate in having in its public service a man recognized throughout the Nation as one of the most brilliant authorities on water law within the boundaries of our country. Added to his uncommon ability, is his devotion to unselfish public service. That man is W. B. Mathews. Mr. Mathews - for 30 years closely identified with the water development problems of Southern California - and an authority on Colorado River development in all of its complex legal phases, is General Counsel for the Metropolitan Water District.

It is my very great pleasure to present Mr. Mathews as the special speaker of the evening.

Mr. Mathews -

Radio Talk - W. P. Whitsett - Friday Evening 7:30 p.m.
July 10, 1931

FOR MR. WALLACE -

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT:

And now - ladies and gentlemen - we present fifteen minutes with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

During this short time we shall hear important news and authoritative information on the great project of bringing water from the Colorado River to the cities of the District. And there is no one better qualified to bring us accurate - interesting and official news on this gigantic water project than Mr. William P. Whitsett - Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District.

In his capacity as Chairman - Mr. Whitsett heads a Board of nineteen directors representing the fifteen cities now in the District. These cities are - as you will recall - Anaheim, Beverly Hills, Burbank, Colton, Compton, Fullerton, Glendale, Long Beach, Pasadena, San Bernardino, San Marino, Santa Ana, Santa Monica, Los Angeles and Torrance. Fifteen thriving - wide-awake cities - brought together in this organization by their pressing need of water.

For the past few months Mr. Whitsett has been kind enough to come up here and tell us about this most important undertaking. At times he brings with him - as his guest - another of the directors of the Board. And tonight we welcome - not only Mr. Whitsett - but also his guest - Mr. Charles H. Randall, President of the Los Angeles City Council.

Mr. Whitsett, as you recall, was not here last Friday, for he was heading a party of Metropolitan Water District officials which joined with United States Congressmen in an official inspection of the work going on at Boulder Canyon. Mr. Whitsett will undoubtedly have new and interesting information regarding the building of the world's greatest dam.

Permit me - at this time, to present Mr. William P. Whitsett - Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District. Mr. Whitsett, in turn, will present Mr. Charles Randall, who will speak to us for a few minutes.

Mr. Whitsett -

W. P. Whitsett - Radio Talk - KNX - Friday Evening,
July 10, 1931 7:30 p.m.

Thank you Mr. Wallace.

It was my privilege - as Mr. Wallace stated - to be one of the party of Southern Californians to make the trip to the Boulder Canyon last Friday. Here we joined the official party of United States Congressman and together inspected the work which reveals the immense progress that has been made by the United States Government in the building of the big dam.

Even those of us who have been closely watching the progress of the work from the start were astounded at the developments - and those of the Congressional party marvelled at the speed which has placed the Government more than six months ahead of its schedule.

That is what the federal government is doing with its project. But the Boulder Canyon Dam is only part of the program of development on the Colorado River. Even more important to us of the Southern Coastal Plain is the opportunity that the construction of this dam gives for the increasing of our water supply.

The dam is being built - is being rushed to completion because Southern California told Congress that we needed a greater supply of water - and needed it desperately. The Government has responded - and now it is our move in Southern California.

It is the acute realization of the imperative necessity of Southern California going ahead with its part of the project which has led to the organization of the Citizens Colorado River Water Committee.

And this Citizens Committee has asked me to remind you tonight that you will receive in your water statements for this month a piece of literature giving information on this project - and inclosing pledge cards to be signed by citizens.

The following statement is printed on the card -

Citizens Colorado River Water Committee

Gentlemen:

Because, Southern California needs additional water to sustain our present development and meet immediate future needs, and -

Because, the Colorado River is the only source capable of meeting our requirements, and -

Because, the Federal Government is now building Boulder Dam and thus doing its part to help us secure this water -

I favor the starting of work on the Metropolitan Aqueduct from the Colorado River at the earliest possible date.

The pledge cards must not be construed in any way as a solicitation for funds - but simply as a call for active support.

Tonight as special guest speaker for this period - I am happy to present Mr. Charles H. Randall. It is indeed fitting that Mr. Randall should speak to us on this undertaking for he was a member of Congress from California during the days when the demand for Colorado River Development was first heard in Congress. His able help then - and in the following years - when he has been prominent in the city government of Los Angeles - in all matters which vitally affect the water supply of Southern California - well qualify him to give us additional information about the Colorado River Aqueduct.

Permit me - at this time - to present Mr. Charles H. Randall - president of the Los Angeles City Council.

Mr. Randall -

Radio Talk - W. P. Whitsett - Friday Evening 7:30 p.m.
July 17, 1931

FOR MR. WALLACE -

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT:

And now comes fifteen minutes with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. This evening KNX presents another of the series of news interviews with Chairman William P. Whitsett of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District.

The Metropolitan Water District - as we all know - is the governmental organization which now includes fifteen Southern California cities - and which is carrying forward the great engineering project of planning and building the gigantic Aqueduct - or water supply line - that will bring in a new and urgently needed supply of water from the Colorado River to the cities within the District.

This evening we are happy to announce that Mr. Watt L. Moreland, well-known Southern California manufacturer and a member of the Citizens Colorado River Water Committee, which is actively supporting the Metropolitan Aqueduct project - will be the special guest speaker of this period. Mr. Moreland will be introduced by Mr. William P. Whitsett, Chairman of the Metropolitan Water District Board of Directors.

Mr. Whitsett -

W. P. Whitsett - Radio Talk - KNX - Friday Evening,
July 17, 1931 7:30 p.m.

Thank you Mr. Wallace.

At the regular meeting of our Metropolitan Water District Board of Directors this afternoon there was placed on file with the Board a report and recommendation of the most vital and far reaching importance. The report came from our Chief Engineer - Mr. Frank E. Weymouth.

In substance this report pointed out that we are face to face with a most critical water problem here in Southern California. He drew attention to the fact that our water supplies rapidly are being exhausted and that we must launch the construction of the Metropolitan Aqueduct from the Colorado River without delay if we hope to maintain our present state of development and our present population - to say nothing of future growth.

Mr. Weymouth recommended to our Board - at its meeting today that steps be taken - without delay -to set underway the construction of an aqueduct with a capacity of 1500 second feet. In the language of the layman that means an aqueduct capable of delivering approximately one billion gallons of water each day.

The cost of this aqueduct - it was reported - will be $220,000,000. Such a cost - to be sure - represents a very large sum of money. But we must remember that there are five billion - not five million - but five billion dollars of property values that are absolutely at stake. Unless we maintain an adequate water supply, these five billions of dollars in values will be undermined and destroyed eventually.

Let us consider what this $220,000,000 aqueduct will mean to the average family of the Metropolitan Water District in the way of costs. After all - we are all interested in how a public project affects us personally. It has been pointed out that the average cost of the aqueduct to a family owning and paying taxes on a $7,000 home will amount to exactly $3.50 a year during the six year period of construction. This means that during the time the aqueduct is being built - and before it has started to earn revenues from the sale of water - its average cost to a family with a $7,000 home, will amount to <u>less than a penny a day</u>.

This evening - the Metropolitan Water District has as its special guest speaker a man who has been a leading and commanding figure in the industrial and civic life of Southern California for many years. This man is Mr. Watt L. Moreland, prominent industrialist - a former

president of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce and today a most active member of the Citizens Colorado River Water Committee.

Permit me - at this time - to present Mr. Moreland.

Mr. Moreland -

Radio Talk - W. P. Whitsett - Friday Evening 7:30 p.m.
July 24, 1931

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT:

And now comes fifteen minutes of fast news and authoritative information from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

The Metropolitan Water District is the organization of fifteen Southern California cities - banded together for the solution of a common problem - and that problem is the ever menacing danger of our depleted water supply. These cities have found the source of an adequate and permanent water supply in the Colorado River - and are now laying plans for launching immediate construction of an aqueduct necessary to bring that water to the cities.

We all know that the security of our home - our business - and our job - depends upon an adequate supply of water. The Metropolitan Water District will give us that security and protection.

Mr. William P. Whitsett - Chairman of the Board of Directors of the District - has as his guest this evening, Mr. E. B. DeGroot, Chief Scout Executive of the Boy Scouts of America, Los Angeles Section.

Mr. Whitsett will speak to us for a few moments - and then present Mr. DeGroot.

Mr. Whitsett -

W. P. Whitsett - Radio Talk - KNX - Friday, 7:30 p.m.
July 24, 1931

The most dramatic and momentous decision affecting Southern California was reached today when the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District unanimously agreed to submit a bond issue to the citizens of the District on September 29th. The amount of the bond issue - which is necessary for the construction of the aqueduct - will be $220,000,000.

As a Director from Los Angeles, it was particularly gratifying to observe that not only were the directors from the other cities unanimous in the decision to hold the bond election but each of these representatives stood up before the Board and stated in unqualified terms that his city was ready and anxious to vote these bonds. For example - Colonel Finley, Secretary of the Board and Director from Santa Ana, declared that it was his opinion that the people of Santa Ana would pass these bonds by a ten to one vote. Mr. George R. Barker - Director from Beverly Hills, summed up the sentiment of his city when he said - "Beverly Hills is ready to vote on this aqueduct project and I am confident that my city will pass them by a handsome majority."

Mr. Nowland M. Reid - Director from Long Beach - who had the honor of presenting the motion on the bond issue - gave expression to the aggressive spirit of Long Beach when he declared, "Long Beach is ready to vote on this question - and the sooner it is the better we will like it. This week we spoke to fifty representative business men of our city asking them to serve on a Citizens Water Committee. And that Long Beach is really ready to go - is shown by the fact that not one of these men refused to serve."

The Board - then is of the opinion that the citizens of Southern California will welcome this opportunity to sanction and authorize the immediate construction of this most necessary project. The thousands of endorsement cards which are being returned to the Citizens Water Committee - demanding immediate action - indicate the enthusiastic approval of the great majority of our residents.

But after all - we are all interested in how a public project affects us personally. It has been pointed out that the average cost of the Aqueduct to a family owning and paying taxes on a $7,000 home will amount to exactly $3.50 a year during the six year period of construction. This means that during the time the Aqueduct is being built - and before it has started to earn revenues from the sale of water - its average cost to a family with a $7,000 home, will amount to <u>less than a penny a day</u>.

And thus it is an accurate statement when we say that on this great Colorado River Aqueduct project - a penny a day will pay the way.

Confronted by the urgent necessity for more water - and knowing that the burden of bringing this water in will not exceed a penny a day - for the average family, every citizen of Southern California - I am sure - will give his support to this project which is so vital for our protection and future growth.

I am happy to announce that the special guest speaker of this period tonight is Mr. E. B. DeGroot. Mr. DeGroot is Chief Scout Executive of the Boy Scouts of America - Los Angeles District. He has occupied an important position in civic life for many years, serving as President of the Los Angeles Rotary Club and was one of the first to offer his services to the Citizens Water Committee.

Permit me - at this time - to present Mr. E. B. DeGroot -

Mr. DeGroot -

Radio Talk - W. P. Whitsett - Friday Evening 7:30 p.m.
July 31, 1931

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT:

And now comes fifteen minutes of fast news and authoritative information from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

The Metropolitan Water District is the organization of Southern California cities - banded together for the solution of a common problem - and that problem is the ever menacing danger of our depleted water supply. These cities have found the source of an adequate and permanent water supply in the Colorado River - and are now laying plans for launching immediate construction of an Aqueduct necessary to bring that water to the cities.

We all know that the security of our home - our business - and our job - depends upon an adequate supply of water. The Metropolitan Water District will give us that security and protection.

Mr. William P. Whitsett - Chairman of the Board of Directors of the District - has as his guest this evening, Mr. William Lacy, Chairman of the Citizens Colorado River Water Committee.

Mr. Whitsett will speak to us for a few minutes - and then present Mr. Lacy.

Mr. Whitsett -

W. P. Whitsett - Radio Talk - KNX - Friday, 7:30 p.m.
July 31, 1931

An announcement of the utmost importance was made a few days ago by the Metropolitan Water District. We have adopted a policy which we believe will mean a tremendous influence on the prosperity and well-being of the cities of the District. And that policy is - that only American citizens and citizens of the Metropolitan Water District exclusively will be employed for the work on the great Colorado River Aqueduct. This means that an average of approximately 10,000 workers - citizens of the District - will be directly benefited by such a program during the construction period of six years duration.

In addition to providing an adequate water supply, construction of this great Aqueduct will release $220,000,000 in payrolls and for the purchase of materials and supplies during the six year building period.

Every dollars of this tremendous investment is to be so spent that it will give the taxpayer a dollar's worth of value for each dollar expended and to labor a fair standard of wages at the prevailing scale.

The 10,000 men employed on the gigantic Aqueduct project constitute only a small part of the army which is to be benefited by the District's investment of $220,000,000.

Many thousands more will be put into employment indirectly in the manufacture and transportation of materials. This group "behind the lines" will be further enlarged by the general business stimulation which is to follow the release of such a vast sum of Eastern "cold storage" money into California's commercial channels, extending even to retail merchants such as the grocer, the clothier and the hardware dealer.

We are facing a most important task - a task imposed upon us by an actual inescapable economic condition - our desperate need of an additional water supply.

And in this crisis it is imperative that we secure the active support of every organization - and every citizen of the District. And it is gratifying to know that the citizens realize the seriousness of the situation - and have organized a Citizens Colorado River Water Committee for the purpose of supporting and fighting for this Colorado River Aqueduct. And the man who is Chairman of the Central Committee - representing the citizens of all of the member cities - is Mr. William Lacy of Los Angeles. Mr. Lacy has served as President of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce. He is head of one of our

city's oldest industrial enterprises, and has been a civic leader for many years. He is - indeed - well qualified to lead our citizens in their support of this undertaking.

May I now present Mr. William Lacy - the special guest speaker of this period.

Mr. Lacy -

Radio Talk - W. P. WHITSETT - Friday Evening 7:30 p.m.
August 7, 1931

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT:

And now comes fifteen minutes of fast news and authoritative information from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

The Metropolitan Water District is the organization of Southern California cities - banded together for the solution of a common problem - and that problem is the ever menacing danger of our depleted water supply. These cities have found the source of an adequate and permanent water supply in the Colorado River - and are now laying plans for launching immediate construction of an Aqueduct necessary to bring that water to the cities.

We all know that the security of our home - our business - and our job - depends upon an adequate supply of water. The Metropolitan Water District will give us that security and protection.

Mr. William P. Whitsett - Chairman of the Board of Directors of the District - has as his guest this evening, Mrs. C. F. Van de Water, President of the Los Angeles County Federation of Women's Clubs.

Mr. Whitsett will speak to us for a few minutes - and then present Mrs. Van de Water.

Mr. Whitsett -

W. P. Whitsett - Radio Talk - KNX - Friday, 7:30 p.m.
August 7, 1931

The calling of an election on September 29th for the Citizens of the Metropolitan Water District to authorize a bond issue for the Colorado River Aqueduct was the result of seven years of careful engineering studies devoted to finding the solution of our serious water problem. Careful surveys and intensive studies resulted in the selection of the Parker Route as the means of bringing that supply to the cities in Southern California.

These studies were conducted under the direction of Frank E. Weymouth, chief engineer of the Metropolitan Water District - and Mr. Weymouth was aided in his work by a Board of Review composed of three internationally famous water engineers. The chairman of this Board of Review was Thaddeus Merriman of New York City - head of the largest water supply system in the world, and his colleagues were Mr. A. J. Wiley of Idaho and Dr. Richard R. Lyman of Salt Lake City.

I am sure that you will be interested to know that the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District in their regular meeting today - passed a resolution calling for the establishment of a Consulting Board of five engineers to work with Mr. Weymouth and the Metropolitan Water District engineers in the construction of the Colorado River Aqueduct. And you will be glad to learn that this resolution also added that three of his Board of Consulting Engineers will be the same men who composed our Board of Review. The other two members will be local engineers to be selected by the Board of Directors. The creating of such a Board - composed of these five men - to work with our Chief Engineer - gives further assurance that this great aqueduct from the Colorado River will be built in the most efficient and economical manner.

And there can be no doubt but that the citizens of the District are overwhelmingly in favor of the early construction of this Aqueduct which the election on September 29th will make possible. Representative men and women from the communities in the District have organized the Citizens Colorado River Water Committee to fight for - and to support the Colorado River Aqueduct. It is this committee which is sending endorsement cards to residents of the District. Thousands of these cards are being signed and returned to the Committee Headquarters - as a matter of fact, over 35,000 citizens - property owners and taxpayers have sent these cards to the Headquarters demanding immediate construction of the aqueduct. A further indication of the spirit of our residents is the fact that hundreds of them are now aiding the Citizens Committee in this important work on a volunteer basis - and Mr. William Lacy - chairman of the Central Committee -

has asked me to announce that the Committee will welcome any offer of assistance that our citizens of the District can give. If you desire to help the Committee in this undertaking come to the Headquarters on the ground floor of the Title Guarantee Building at Fifth and Hill Streets, or call Michigan 7683 - And remember - to sign the endorsement card for the Colorado River Aqueduct.

In the work which our citizens are doing - and in the endorsement cards which we are receiving, I have been gratified to notice that the women of Southern California are taking an amazingly aggressive stand in favor of this project. Therefore - it is with particular pleasure that I announce the special guest speaker for this period - as Mrs. C. F. Van de Water. Mrs. Van de Water, whose home is in Long Beach, is the present of the Los Angeles County Federation of Womens' Clubs - and has always taken an active and a prominent part in the civic life of Southern California.

Permit me - to present - at this time, Mrs. C. F. Van de Water, President of the Los Angeles County Federation of Womens' Clubs.

Mrs. Van de Water -

Radio Talk - W. P. WHITSETT - Friday Evening 7:30 p.m.
August 14, 1931

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT:

And now comes fifteen minutes of fast news and authoritative information from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

The Metropolitan Water District is the organization of Southern California cities - banded together for the solution of a common problem - and that problem is the ever menacing danger of our depleted water supply. These cities have found the source of an adequate and permanent water supply in the Colorado River - and are now laying plans for launching immediate construction of an Aqueduct necessary to bring that water to the cities.

We all know that the security of our home - our business - and our job - depends upon an adequate supply of water. The Metropolitan Water District and the Colorado River Aqueduct will give us that security and protection.

Mr. William P. Whitsett, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the District, has been kind enough to give these weekly news interviews over KNX.

Permit me at this time to present Mr. Whitsett who will, I am sure, give us important news concerning the latest developments on the Colorado River Aqueduct project.

Mr. Whitsett -

Mr. William P. Whitsett - Radio Talk - KNX - Friday, August 14, 1931. 7:30 p.m.

The little sprinkling of rain which has been falling during the past few days - has served to draw our attention to the peculiar desert conditions of Southern California. In no other part of the world where a large population has gathered - would there have been the banner headlines - and jubilant news stories which greeted the showers of yesterday. Rain IS big news in Southern California. And no other fact so indicates the importance of every drop of water which the heavens send us - as does our attitude of rejoicing when ever we receive a little rain.

It is this meager rainfall which has forced us to turn to the underground reservoirs in which water from the past centuries has been stored. And it has taken only about thirty years of intensive development here on the Southern Coastal plain to practically deplete these underground basins. With a meager desert rainfall and with a depleted underground supply it is obvious that we must import water from another source.

In planning a water supply for a great Metropolitan area - a water supply upon which rests the security of our homes - our orchards and our business - it would be foolish - of course - to base our plans on the assumption that the rainfall in the next few years would increase to far above the average.

To be safe, we must always assume an average fall. And - of course - as we all know - there has never been any definite and accurate cycle of wet and dry years figured out for this Southern California area. And there is no reason whatsoever to think that the present dry cycle will change - there is no reason on which to base a hope for an extremely wet winter. As a matter of fact - there is every indication that the next few years will be drier than this year. The records of the early California Padres show that there have been several years when no measurable amount of rain fell at all.

But since man started the development of this region - our underground levels have been falling during the wet years as well as the dry years. In fact - even after the greatest precipitation ever recorded here in Southern California our underground levels dropped the following year. With the exception - of one or two small basins there has never been a rise in the levels. This all means of course - that with every indication of more dry years - and with even the extremely rainy winters unable to raise, to any valuable extent, our rapidly dwindling water supply - it is absolutely imperative that

the Colorado River Aqueduct be started at the earliest possible moment.

And - as Chairman of the Metropolitan Water District Board - I wish to express my appreciation of the wonderful cooperation and help which we are receiving from private citizens - from business and commercial concerns - and from civic organizations.

In every city of the Metropolitan Water District - citizens are spontaneously and enthusiastically organizing Committees for the purpose of supporting and fighting for the Colorado River Aqueduct. These representative men and women - are devoting their time and their energy to this undertaking because they know that it is the most important - the most vitally necessary task which Southern California citizens have ever faced. And yesterday at a meeting called by Mr. William Lacy - Chairman of the Central Committee - the Los Angeles Section of the Citizens Water Committee launched its organization - and laid the plans for an active - aggressive campaign. It is this committee which is sending out endorsement cards in the water and electric statements - and I am proud to say that over 40,000 loyal - far-sighted citizens have demanded the construction of the Colorado River Aqueduct by signing and mailing these cards to the Committee. The Committee requests everyone wishing to help and work for this project to come to the Headquarters at Fifth and Hill on the ground floor of the Title Guarantee Building, or telephone Michigan 7683.

But it is not only the individual citizens who are giving this most valuable cooperation. It is immensely gratifying to know that the commercial and businessmen of Southern California are wholeheartedly boosting for the Aqueduct - and aiding in many material ways. Over two hundred and thirty theatres in the Metropolitan Water District are showing the news-reels and feature pictures produced by the District. Radio KNX and twelve other stations are generously contributing of their valuable time on the air - Foster and Kleiser have granted us the free use of over four hundred out-door bill boards - the Title Guarantee and Trust Company as you know - is giving the Committee space on the ground floor of their beautiful new building at Fifth and Hill Streets, Los Angeles. Here is located the official exhibit of the District - and the Central Committee Headquarters. And then - over 4000 business and industrial concerns - from the corner grocery and drug stores up to the gigantic Ford and Goodrich plants - are aiding to a great degree by the display of signs and by cooperation with their personnel and customers.

And again - as Chairman of the Board of Directors

of the Metropolitan Water District - I wish to extend our most sincere and grateful appreciation to the citizens - and the business houses and commercial concerns - and to the civic organizations. This wonderful spirit which has so clearly manifested itself in these actions show that Southern California citizens have not lost their foresight and vision - and more important that they have the courage to put their vision - and foresight into an actual concrete undertaking. This foresight and vision - combined with courage - will build the Colorado River Aqueduct - and make possible the maintenance of our present population - the protection of our present property values - and the possibility of a glorious future of expansion and development.

Neenah

SUCCESS BOND

RAG CONTENT

W. P. Whitsett Radio Talk KNX Friday Evening 7:30
August 21, 1931

Thank you Mr. Wallace.

As Mr. Wallace has just told you - I have the distinguished honor this evening of presenting to the people of Southern California over Radio Station KNX - one of the foremost water engineers in all the world - Mr. Thaddeus Merriman. In addition to his duties as Chief Engineer of the New York City Board of Water Supply - Mr. Merriman has also been serving as chairman of the Engineering Board of Review which investigated and recommended the route that is to be followed by the Colorado River Aqueduct that will bring water to our thirsty cities in the Metropolitan Water District.

I believe it is safe to assume that no more distinguished or competent water authority in all America could have been selected for the task of passing upon the many intricate engineering problems in connection with the construction of the great Metropolitan Aqueduct.

Before introducing Mr. Merriman I desire to beg your indulgence for just one moment. At 12 o'clock - noon - on next Friday - August 28 - the Citizens Colorado River Water Committee representing all of the thirteen cities in the Metropolitan Water District and headed by Mr. William Lacy of Los Angeles, will officially launch the active campaign in behalf of the Aqueduct bond issue to be voted on September 29. The occasion will be marked by a luncheon meeting to be held in the Hotel Biltmore, and to be attended by representative men and women from all of the cities in the District. Mr. Lacy - as chairman of the large group of private citizens who are organized to support the Aqueduct bond issue - has asked me to appeal to every man and woman in the Metropolitan Water District this evening to lend their active support to the campaign task that Southern California has ever set underway. It will require the wholehearted cooperation of every citizen in the District.

The central headquarters of the Citizens Committee is situated on the ground floor of the Title Guarantee Building at Fifth and Hill Streets in Los Angeles. The telephone number is Michigan 7683.

Get in touch with the Citizens headquarters and let them know that you are ready to help.

And now - permit me to introduce the distinguished speaker of this period - Mr. Thaddeus Merriman.

Metropolitan Water District Program KNX
Friday Evening 7:30 August 21, 1931

FOR MR. WALLACE

Opening Announcement:

This evening we are happy to announce that Mr. Thaddeus Merriman, Chief Engineer of the New York City Board of Water Supply, will be the special guest speaker of the period. He is the man upon whom the seven million people living in New York City depend for their water supply.

Mr. Merriman will be introduced by Mr. W. P. Whitsett, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. Mr. Whitsett will speak briefly before presenting Mr. Merriman.

Let us now present Mr. W. P. Whitsett -

Radio Talk - W. P. Whitsett - KNX - 7:30 September 18, 1931
INTRODUCING - Mr. Mattison Jones.

Every state and city of this Nation has contributed to the growth of Southern California. Here is a melting-pot within a melting-pot. While the United States has drawn to itself people from all nations and forged them into the foremost country of the world, Southern California has carried on the same process within our national boundaries. Out of the diverse types from the plains of Kansas, the Grand Banks of New England, and the blue grass of Kentucky, this mellow land of Southern California has built a great community with a true civic consciousness. In an area populated by migrations there exists in every Southern California city a multitude of social groups. These groups are drawn together and united by ties leading back to cities and states from whence they came. Naturally, and as may be expected, a great diversity of interest, ideas, and opinions are manifested, one group with another on all ordinary topics of public interest.

However, when it comes to broad interests of the region those vital issues which effect the material and spiritual welfare of the community, the people of Southern California always rally to the cause with the spirit of patriots. So was it when the Owens Valley Aqueduct was built, and so is it now with the building of the Colorado River Aqueduct. When the word went out that our wells could no longer sustain the growth above them and were falling, and the briny water of the sea was moving into the supplies that remained, differences that separated groups were laid aside and we found them with a solid front set to solve the problem.

The Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, representing thirteen cities, some industrial, some agricultural, and some residential, have given unstintingly of their time, without compensation for three years on this great task. In a spirit of perfect harmony they have worked to the common end of defeating the desert by filling the arteries of this land of sunshine with the water that gives it life. Behind the Directors was the strength and support of our people. In spite of a condition of world depression, in spite of the magnitude of the undertaking standing in the front rank of the greatest to which man has ever put his mind and hand, they have come forward with strength and energy concentrated. The laborer, the businessman, the clergyman, and the doctor have laid aside their personal and selfish affairs in the old Spartan spirit and thrown themselves dynamically into the cause.

During these past few months, since the decision

was made to go ahead, there has been a constant and enthusiastic rallying to the job of getting the facts to the people. Every day there flows into the office of the District a constant stream of endorsements and resolutions of support. Organized and unorganized labor, the civic, the financial, and the commercial groups of our cities have come forward shoulder to shoulder saying in one voice "we must have the water, the plan is economically sound and we want to put over this bond issue with an overwhelming expression of Southern California's unity on the Colorado River Aqueduct." Not only has the response come from individuals and organizations, but great institutions such as this radio station have given generously and willingly in the interest of the public of their tremendously valuable facilities.

Why is it that Southern California has this power of welding her many diverse interests into an harmonious unity on great public and civic undertakings? The answer is to be found in the fibre and quality of her people. They are of selected stock. In the great westward movement of the races continuing since the beginning of time, the stronger, the courageous, those with the great initiative qualities of leadership have predominated. They are the people of vision who see the problem clearly and with the spirit of doers plunge with their fellow into the fight for those things that affect the life and interest of the community. In a desert city there is nothing more vital than water. That is why this Colorado River Aqueduct is receiving and ringing and enthusiastic support of all parts and elements of this community in a rousing spirit of rivalry to put over the bond issue on September 29 with an overwhelming, decisive majority.

Radio Talk - Introduction of Senator Shortridge.
September 28, 1931

This evening I have the privilege and pleasure of presenting to you a man who has been known and honored by the people of the State of California for many years. Before doing so there is a matter which duty impels me to call briefly to your attention. On tomorrow, September the 29th, the voters living within the thirteen cities of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California will express themselves on the building of the Colorado River Aqueduct.

The outcome of their combined decisions will be the most important event in the entire history of Southern California. The burning question to be decided is, "Are we going forward with the courage and determination of those brave desert-defying men and women who were our grandfathers and grandmothers, or are we going backward and relinquish the inheritance they so nobly handed to our keeping?" That is one of the questions you will decide tomorros.

Without this water from the Colorado River, our destiny is vague and our present and future most insecure. The whole world is watching apprehensively the coming of winter with the problem of unemployment not yet solved. Your decision at the polls tomorrow will have a bearing on that situation so far as Southern California is concerned. The starting of the aqueduct will certainly lighten the outlook of the thousands who will be employed directly and indirectly on this great job.

To people in desert places water is the essence of life - to the man out of work a job means food and comforts for himself and family. These things are fundamental to modern civilization just as intelligent voting by every eligible citizen is the basis of our democracy - the most enlightened government yet devised. Failure to exercise your right and duty tomorrow by going to the polls and casting your ballot on the building of the Colorado River Aqueduct is to neglect the best interests of yourself, your community, and the government under which you live. My urgent message to you is, "BE SURE TO VOTE."

The honored statesman whom I will now present to you has represented California at the National Congress for many years. Like his illustrious contemporaries in that body he has for many years been in the forefront of the battle for the Hoover Dam. That battle was valiantly won and what it means to Southern California is well known to all of us. There is no need for me to further dwell on the many achievements of the long and strenuous life in the public service of the Honorable Samuel M. Shortridge who will now address you.

Radio Talk - W. P. Whitsett - KFWB - Tuesday, Sept. 22, 1931
11:30 a.m.

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT:

(Electrical Transcription)

ANNOUNCER:

And now the Citizens' Colorado River Water Committee presents Mr. William P. Whitsett. Mr. Whitsett is Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District which is the organization that will build the big Aqueduct from the Colorado River. Mr. Whitsett is a pioneer of Southern California and is familiar with all of the details of our water problem.

CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENT:

ANNOUNCER:

You have been listening to Mr. Wm. P. Whitsett, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District.

(Electrical Transcription)

W. P. Whitsett - Radio Talk - KFWB - Tuesday, Sept. 22, 1931
11:30 a.m.

On September 29th the men and women of the Metropolitan Water District will vote for the Colorado River Aqueduct Bonds. I unhesitatingly recommend that every citizen of Southern California actively and aggressively support this most vital measure. Never before has the need for concerted action been so desperately needed - and never before have the conflicting and adverse interests and individuals so rapidly and unanimously banded together with one object and one view in mind - to build the Colorado River Aqueduct at the earliest possible moment.

And it is entirely fitting that this unity of action and thought among the representative and leading men and women should exist, for it is not an exaggeration to say that in the early construction of this Aqueduct lies the destiny of the entire community. This is not a problem to be solved by a futile attempt to digest lengthy and detailed engineering figures. And that action must be based on certain fundamental and indisputable facts. These facts have been established after careful and thorough engineering studies and investigations which have extended over the past eight years. They have been established on the word of the world's greatest engineers and most widely recognized economists, and the findings of these men are not to be lightly discarded in the face of a weak, last-minute attempt of selfish interests to defeat the Colorado River Aqueduct.

We - as laymen - must place our faith on the word of the greatest authorities - and we must supplement their opinions with our own observation and knowledge. When we consider the question in this light - we find that the only answer to Southern California's gravest problem is the Colorado River Aqueduct.

When confronted by the proposal of bringing in a new supply of Colorado River Water - the first question which quite naturally comes to the mind of every voter is -"Do we really need MORE water?"

The argument recalls the famous epigram of William Mulholland, the city's veteran water engineer, who, in support of the then-projected Owens River aqueduct bonds quarter of a century ago, said - "If Los Angeles doesn't get this water - she won't need it."

By the same token, if the people of the Metropolitan Water District don't get the Colorado River water by voting the necessary bonds, they won't need it - because there will never be a greater population here than there is water to accommodate.

If Los Angeles had failed to get water from Owens Valley something like a million persons now residing here, working here and producing and holding millions of dollars in wealth here, would be residing elsewhere.

If this condition actually existed, and Los Angeles remained under the 500,000 population mark by reason of its self-imposed water supply limitation, little calculation is required to arrive at an estimate of what real estate values would be, how many millions in pay rolls would be lacking - what handicaps would exist in every phase of individual and community activity.

The problem of water supply, more than any other natural or artificial condition, exerts a determining influence on Southern California population - business - industry - commerce - agriculture and wealth. Rich in every natural resource - blessed with an exceptional climate - rapidly expanding as one of the world's greatest centers of commerce and industry - regarded by millions throughout the world as the most desirable place in which to live - Southern California cannot grow beyond the horizon of its water resources.

Because of the semi-aridity of this region it is remarkable that our tremendous growth has not placed an oppressive price on our water. But this is not a fact. Water is relatively cheap.

Transportation of Colorado River water to Southern California communities will not add disproportionately to the cost of water either in the present or the future.

And that brings to our attention a very important and vital point - "Just what will this project cost us as tax-payers and rate payers?" Bonds of the Metropolitan Water District differ in three important respects from the bonds of any other municipal organization. In the first place - the bonds for the construction of the Colorado River Aqueduct will be retired over a fifty year period instead of the usual 40 years period. And then - this 50 year period does not start to run until the bonds are actually issued or sold. During the construction period these bonds will be sold as they are needed. This means that we will actually have 56 years in which to retire the bonds - which will place a big portion of the burden upon the generations which will derive a considerable share of the benefit. The third and most important distinction is this - under the law a period of fifteen years will elapse before it will be necessary for us to start paying back any of the principal upon these bonds.

This means a moritorium period of fifteen years in which the aqueduct will be built - and be in operation for about nine years before we start paying back the money we have borrowed. Consequently, the tax on property owners will be extremely light - and entirely in proportion to the benefits which will be derived. During the six year construction period - before there is any revenue coming in from the sale of water - and when the burden will be the greatest - the average tax - over these six years - will be ten cents on each hundred dollars of assessed valuation. In other words - if you own property worth $7000 - the assessed valuation would be $3500 - and the average tax over this six year period would be $3.50 per year. Surely that is not an exhorbitant price to pay for the averting of a distressful and acute water shortage. Surely that is not an excessive tax for the protection and the increased valuation which will result when Colorado River water pours into Southern California.

Any explanation of the Aqueduct Bond Issue would be incomplete if the question of labor and employment were not mentioned. Never before in the history of this generation has there been such a great need for some legitimate - necessary - construction job - to give our fellow-citizens an opportunity to earn an honest living. The construction of the Aqueduct will mean that 10,000 men will be employed over the period of six years. And the District has announced the official policy of employing American citizens of the District exclusively for this work. That is Southern California's answer to the bogey of depression. Here is granted us an opportunity to construct a most vitally necessary project - at a time when money and material is the cheapest - and when the employment will be of the greatest benefit to our friends - neighbors and fellow-citizens. The importance of the general business stimulus - with the resulting increase of employment - which will follow our action on voting for the Bonds - cannot be overestimated.

And so in the light of these facts I call upon each and every citizen of the Metropolitan Water District to vote for the bonds on September 29th - and to see that our friends and neighbors do likewise.

We are the heirs of a golden age. All that we have - and all that we have created here in Southern California we owe to WATER - and if we are to protect our values - and to create new values we must likewise base our protection and growth on WATER. WATER in Southern California is more precious than gold. And the means that we take to supply an adequate amount of this precious element absolutely and unequivocably shapes our well-being and destiny. We must vote "YES" on September 29th.

Radio Address - W. P. Whitsett
September 25, 1931

In the middle of the Arizona Desert stands an Indian City, built and abandoned centuries before the coming of the white man. Nearby along the sides of the Valley, can be traced, under the cactus and the sage, the outlines of irrigation ditches now as dry as the desert round about. What became of the people whose hands built these works? Within their empty homes the first explorers found baskets, jewelry, tools, and utensils scattered about in confusion, indicating a hasty departure. Very probably when the mountain stream which fed the ditches ceased to flow, and the fields dried up, these people fled in terror of the dry death of the desert to a distant water hole from which they never returned. Wherever men dwell, whether on the mountain or in the valley, life and security of property swing in the balance with water supply.

The rainfall which nature gives one place so freely and another so niggardly, is the measure of man's mastery of the earth and of his ability to dwell in great cities. Throughout the story of mankind his greatest works number among them the conduits of masonry and steel which carry to thirsty cities the waters of distant mountain streams. These are structures whose importance transcends the material of which they are made, and partake of the spirit of their makers. They are the very life arteries of a throbbing cities. No man or any group of men in civilized communities should have the power to control selfishly the water supply on which thousands depend. By the same principle no man should seek to influence to his own interest or to profit unjustly in the building of such a structure. Those persons who attempt to enrich themselves, by buying lands necessary to the building of an aqueduct project, or by diverting its water to an unlawful use, should be held up to public scorn and driven from the community in disgrace. It is no more just or ethical to prey upon the necessities of a community than on the life necessities of its individual citizens.

In the building of the Colorado River Aqueduct, such petty grafters and profiteers will have focused on them the searching light of constant and honest investigation. This job, the Directors of the District are agreed, must be built in the best, safest, and most economical manner possible, and must remain free from the unscrupulour interests which seek to profit at the expense of the public.

I have the exceptional privilege and pleasure of introducing a man who by the exercise of foresight and

INTERVIEW - RADIO STATION KGFJ

December 14, 1932

6:45 P. M.

DEAN McNITT: So that we may understand just what this interview deals with, Mr. Whitsett, let us first ask some fundamental questions. Exactly what is The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California?

MR. WHITSETT: The Metropolitan Water District is a governmental subdivision of the State of California. Included in it are thirteen cities, and their combined areas constitute the area of The Metropolitan Water District.

DEAN MCNITT: Apparently, then, the idea that The Metropolitan Water District and the City of Los Angeles are one and the same thing is wrong. What are these thirteen cities you mention?

MR. WHITSETT: I'm glad you asked that question, Dean McNitt. Contrary to the belief that seems to be held in some quarters, Los Angeles is by no means the only city in the District. There are twelve other municipalities: Anaheim, Beverly Hills, Burbank, Compton, Fullerton, Glendale, Long Beach, Pasadena, San Marino, Santa Ana, Santa Monica and Torrance.

DEAN MCNITT: We all know, of course, that the District was formed for the purpose of building and operating the Colorado River Aqueduct. Does it have any other function?

MR. WHITSETT: Absolutely none. The sole purpose of the District is to bring into Southern California a new and adequate water supply from the Colorado River.

DEAN MCNITT: As an attorney, one of the points which interests me especially is the government of the District. Just what sort of governmental machinery has been set up?

MR. WHITSETT: The District is governed by a Board of Directors, the members of which are appointed by the mayors of the municipalities in the District, with the approval of the city councils. The representation of each city is based on its assessed valuation, but it is provided that no city shall have over fifty per cent of the total number of votes of all the member cities, no matter how large that city may be. That guards against the possibility of any one municipality dominating the District. All the Directors serve without compensation.

DEAN MCNITT: You said a few minutes ago, Mr. Whitsett, that the District's only function is to build the Colorado River Aqueduct. Just how did you go about determining that the Aqueduct is necessary?

MR. WHITSETT: Lengthy engineering studies showed us that Southern California is using all of its available annual rainfall, and in addition is drawing 200,000,000 gallons a day from its underground water supplies in order to make up the balance. That could mean only one thing - rapid depletion of our present water reserves. This depletion is shown by the fact that the level of water in our wells is constantly dropping. Each year it has been necessary to deepen the wells in pursuit of the falling water levels in the natural basins beneath the ground.

DEAN MCNITT: But aren't there other sources from which we could get sufficient water to meet our needs?

MR. WHITSETT. Unfortunately, there are not. Southern California has too completely outgrown its water supply for that. I have pointed out that our present supply is not large enough to meet even our needs now, without serious overdraft upon our reserves. Future growth, which will inevitably come, will make necessary far greater overdrafts which cannot be allowed to continue without grave consequences. Taking water from wells is really like taking water from a rain barrel. If we take two gallons a day from the barrel more than rainfall puts into it, there can be only one result. We are going to hit the bottom sooner or later. That's exactly what faces Southern California today. We've been taking more water from our rain barrel than Nature has been replacing, and unless we secure a new supply, we're certain to strike bottom. It has been definitely determined that only from the Colorado River can we obtain a new supply that is large enough to meet this situation.

DEAN MCNITT: You mentioned lengthy engineering studies a moment ago, Mr. Whitsett. Just when was the possibility of a Colorado River Aqueduct first considered?

MR. WHITSETT: In 1923. For nine years the most intensive surveys and engineering studies were carried forward to determine first, our need for the water, and second, the most economical and best way of getting it here. I think it is safe to say, Dean McNitt, that more intensive research was devoted to the Aqueduct than to any other engineering project in the history of the country.

DEAN MCNITT: How is the project to be financed?

MR. WHITSETT: On September 29, 1931, citizens of the District voted, by an overwhelming 5-to-1 majority, a $220,000,000 Colorado River Aqueduct bond issue. The Federal Reconstruction Finance Corporation has pledged itself to bid on and buy these Aqueduct bonds up to the sum of $40,000,000 thus making available sufficient funds to finance construction work on the project over the first two years. Monday the Corporation's bid on the first block of bonds was accepted.

DEAN MCNITT: I understand that the District's Directors also awarded its first large contract last Monday. Is that correct?

MR. WHITSETT: Yes. It was the contract for construction of the 13-mile San Jacinto tunnel. The contract was awarded the Metropolitan Engineering Corporation which submitted a low bid of $7,331,815.

DEAN MCNITT: Does that action indicate that the entire project will be done by contractors?

MR. WHITSETT: Not at all. A minimum wage scale has been set up by the District and must be observed strictly, whether the work is done under contract or by force account. Under the law, any contractor or sub-contractor, who pays less than the minimum wage will be fined ten dollars for every day that the law is violated in each individual case.

DEAN MCNITT: How was this wage scale determined?

MR. WHITSETT: The District wage scale was established after a thorough study had been made of the wages actually paid in Los Angeles, Riverside, Orange and San Bernardino Counties, and is somewhat higher, on the whole, than the average wages being paid by the various types of employers in these four counties.

DEAN MCNITT: Approximately how many men will be employed on this hugh job?

MR. WHITSETT: It is estimated that an average of 10,000 men will work on the Aqueduct project over the six year construction period. Many thousands more, of course, will be given employment indirectly in the manufacture of materials and supplies that will be needed for construction.

DEAN MCNITT: Before we conclude, Mr. Whitsett, is there any special point you would like to make for the benefit of those who are listening to us?

MR. WHITSETT: Yes, Mr. McNitt, there is. I should like to leave one thought with the citizens of The Metropolitan Water District who have heard our discussion. It is simply this: I want to personally assure every one of them that the members of the Board of Directors of the District keenly feel the great responsibility that has been placed upon them; and we are sincerely determined to do this job in the best possible way. We have but two interests in the matter. One of them is to see that the citizens and taxpayers of the District get full value for their money. The other is to see that the rights and interests of the men actually employed on the project are fully protected, and that those doing the work are drawn from the thirteen cities in the District.

I have been very happy to discuss with you our great Aqueduct project, Dean McNitt, and I thank you for the opportunity.

* * * * *

* * * * *

RADIO TALK

THE HOW AND WHY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

The assurance of an adequate, dependable, controlled water supply for industrial and domestic needs means STABILITY now and for the future.

April, 1935

The how and why of Southern California's miraculous development; the story of a population that has more than doubled during every decade since 1900; the story of desert valleys converted into the world's greatest food-producing acres; the story of magnificent estates where fabulous wealth expresses itself in palaces and gardens that would dim the splendor of ancient monarchs; the story of small subsistence farms which have meant home and security to thousands with more time than money; the story of the concentration of the film industry where every type of setting from tropical beaches and semi-tropical groves to snow-capped peaks and desert spaces may be found within a radius of a few miles; the story of an annual trek of hundreds of thousands of tourists who seek refuge from extreme climates in the year-round moderate temperatures made by sunshine and ocean breezes; - all this and more can be attributed to ONE THING and summed up in the full meaning of one word - WATER.

To millions who live in the Eastern, Central and Northern Pacific States, the problem of water has never been a problem at all in the sense it is in the Southwest. In those sections, water sufficient to meet the ordinary requirements of daily living, with rainfall enought to moisten the earth at planting and growing seasons is taken for granted. True, the first settlers in every community have inevitably chosen a siet with due regard for its proximity to a dependable water supply, the facilities of which have been gradually expanded to meet increasing needs. Every section has had its occasional complaints from farmers and gardeners when crops were stunted by unusual drought; and our entire Nation felt seriously the dire effects of the prolonged drought of 1934 which left famine and misery over the great cattle and grain states of the West. But what the problem of securing an adequate, dependable water supply means as a CONSTANT FACTOR in the development of a semi-arid region like Southern California is little understood by the world at large. Here, it is a problem which has enlisted the best thought of the most daring men of vision; challenged the brains and skill of the world's greatest engineers; and employed the most ingenious devices of modern mechanical science.

Los Angeles looks ahead.

Because the leaders in Los Angeles had the foresight to realize the very limited natural water supply must be increased before the city could experience the growth they envisioned for it, the Owens River Aqueduct was completed in 1913, bringing water 250 miles across mountain ranges and deserts from the melting snows of the High Sierras to make possible life in abundance for a population which is now fast exceeding the maximum provided for by this great water system. In order to conserve and protect the wealth and security of Los Angeles from the immediate threat of an exceeded water supply, its present water system is being extended one hundred miles farther north to gather the mountain streams of Mono Basin.

Metropolitan Water District.

Following the progressive spirit of Los Angeles, twelve other cities joined with her to form The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. This group has undertaken the world's boldest and biggest piece of engineering construction to bring in the waters of the Colorado to meet the domestic and industrial needs of ten million people. Across approximately three hundred miles of rugged mountain and desert country, the Colorado River Aqueduct is being constructed at a cost of $220,000,000. Ninety-one miles of tunnel is but one feature that makes this project one that strains the imagination to contemplate. Yet this gigantic job is well on the way toward completion. From beginning to end, in detail or as a whole, it is a drama of courage and skill which will mark an epoch in man's conquest of nature's forces. It gives to California and the Southland assurance that its unlimited resources may be developed with confidence; it is the Insurance against the inevitable catastrophe which through all history has limited and eventually condemned to oblivion the great cities built in desert lands.

The story of many cities of ancient glory is the same. They grew as the centers of unusually fertile agricultural regions. With the increasing population which came to partake of the abundance of these lands, the limited water reserves were exhausted and the whole populace had to flee or perish. So today on the great Arabian Peninsula, nomadic tribes wander over the ruins of cities buried in the dust.

The tragedies of history repeat themselves only because men are too stupid or too stubborn to profit by the lessons they should learn from the past. The thinking citizens of California's Southland have reckoned with the fate that has limited the possibilities of regions similar to her fertile acres, and they have seen to it that both present and future are amply safe-guarded against the consequences of insufficient water.

The great, brown hills of the Southland, scorched by the long dry summer days; the dry river beds bearing the marks of flood seasons; endless miles of desert valleys all besprinkled with productive farms, flowering gardens and gorgeous parks, give testimony of the "Before and After" of adequate water supply.

The fundamental desires and needs of man are ever the same. Friendly climate and fertile soil lure him to the place where he can secure comfortable living and abundant food at a minimum of expense and effort. So the lure of California is not magic, but the natural appeal of a land that deals kindly with man. The Padres who established the first missions along the Southern Pacific coast told of luxuriant vineyards, a marvelous variety of fruit and vegetables, and the easy comfort of living in this moderate climate. From those early days, thousands have dreamed of the idyllic life possible here. And many of the more adventurous made their dreams come true long before the discovery of gold started the rush of immigration less than a hundred years ago. Each newcomer has spread the gospel of California multiplying the number of prospective citizens with the rapidity of the chain letter. In consequence, an influx of people from every state in the Union, and from many foreign lands has given Los Angeles County the most phenominal growth recorded in our nation's history.

To meet the challenge of this tremendous and rapid increase in population, just one thing was necessary - an adequate water supply. Necessity is the parent of all truly great achievement. The obvious necessity of water only proves the folly of taking it for granted anywhere.

Throughout the progress of civilization, man has been gradually learning to CONTROL his surroundings to meet the growing demands of comfort and efficiency. He has long since ceased to be a helpless pawn subject to the play of nature's fitful moods. Today, artificial lighting allows him to continue his work or play inside or out, whether the

sun shines or darkness reigns. His buildings are air-conditioned, so that even temperatures give him health and comfort through the changing seasons. Just as the original NECESSITY for light and heat inspired the evolution of the ultra-modern devices for thier control, so the NECESSITY for adequate water in the semi-arid region of the Southland inspired the building of the greatest system of adequate, dependable and CONTROLLED water supply known in the history of the world.

California of the South has provided for her people a CONTROLLED water supply from which she can irrigate her fields, orchards and gardens and meet her industrial and domestic needs regardless of drought or flood. Because of the constancy of this prime necessity of life, the Southland has more basis for confidence in the future than any region dependent wholly on the vagaries of nature.

The story of water development as told in the Water Palace at the San Diego Exposition impressed deeply all who saw it. Through the courtesy of the Board of Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, we quote excerpts from a publication in a subsequent article which will be of vital interest to every citizen and prospective investor in Southern California. To KNOW the history of this problem which has been faced and conquered so efficiently is to realize that the opportunities for future growth far surpass those of the past.

With the present trend toward decentralization in eastern industrial centers, the popularity of the "back-to-the-soil" movement and the eyes of the world focused on Southern California as a place that offers greatest return for least effort, we may reasonably anticipate the greatest migration in modern history. The stage is set. The world is invited to enjoy here life that is an endless pageant of color, interest and variety.

* * * * *

* * * * *

Radio Broadcast of Main Aqueduct Completion Ceremony
October 14, 1939

We who gathered here today have stood in the presence of an historic event. We have witnessed the actual completion of the main line of the Colorado River Aqueduct, the greatest construction job of its kind ever to be brought to successful completion in America.

"The main line of the Colorado River Aqueduct has been completed." This is the report - this is the message which we today have given to the citizens of the thirteen golden cities which comprise The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. This is the report which we today have given to all the world. This is the report which we have given to those who, in years gone by, have said: "It can't be done."

Back of this report of accomplishment stand twenty years of bold and practical dreams of a mighty water supply system that will forever free the cities of The Metropolitan Water District from the menace of drought. Twenty years of careful, expert planning by the most competent and able group of engineering authorities ever assembled on a similar project. Twenty years of tireless work on the part of public spirited citizens who have given their unwavering support to the end that a vital and essential public enterprise might be successfully consummated. And finally, during the past seven years of this period - all these dreams and these plans have been wrought into a gigantic structure of reality by the toil and the loyalty of the great army of Aqueduct workmen who have now brought to completion the actual construction of the major part of a gigantic water supply system that will bring an everlasting flood of life-giving water from the Colorado River to each of the cities within The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

The completion of the main aqueduct today signalizes the final victory in the long war that our people have waged against the Desert and against the menace of Drought. Through the portal of this tunnel which pierces the towering barrier of Mt. San Jacinto there now shall come a constant, abundant, controlled supply of water. Water - the priceless possession of a desert land. Water - to build and sustain a new Empire upon the shores of the Pacific.

judgment has made a tremendous contribution to the progress of The Metropolitan Water District undertaking. Upon taking office as Mayor of the City of Los Angeles, he recognized the truly metropolitan nature of the problem, and the necessity in such an undertaking where a number of dissimilar communities are associated, of maintaining confidence between them. To this end he directed that The Metropolitan District Directors representing the City of Los Angeles should be dissociated from any internal relationship or influence which might interfere with their deliberating with the Directors from the other cities of the District in an unbiased and unprejudiced manner. He has always been responsive, helpful, and extraordinarily generous of his time and energy on behalf of the project. His appointments to the District's Board have in every instance been selected from among the highest type of able and constructive citizens of this City. It is with great pleasure that I now present to you the Honorable John C. Porter, Mayor of the City of Los Angeles.